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JAN 25 1978

FBIS-LAT-78-8
Thursday
12 January 1978
Vol VI No 8

DAILY REPORT

ORIGINAL COMPLETED

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FROM BEST AVAILABLE COPY

LATIN AMERICA

Available for Distribution
From NTIS

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25 JAN SET FOR DELIVERING BEAGLE REJECTION

PY111618Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0554 GMT 11 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Jan--Sources close to the Foreign Ministry reported tonight that the Argentine Government will deliver a note rejecting the arbitrator's decision on the Beagle Channel to the Chilean Ambassador on 25 January. The sources added that the Foreign Ministry will propose that direct, bilateral negotiations be held to reach a satisfactory agreement.

A copy of the note rejecting the decision will also be delivered to the British charge d'affaires ad interim. It was the British Government which made a final decision on the border conflict involving the southern area of the American continent, based on the study carried out by three noted international jurists. The sources added that although Argentina is willing to hold further dialog--regardless of the methods which may be proposed--it will not give up the unrestricted Argentine sovereignty over the islands and maritime areas to which it is entitled pursuant to the agreements whereby Argentina is considered exclusively an Atlantic nation, while Chile has sovereignty over the entire southern Pacific coast.

It was also reported that although the note will categorically reject the decision, it will not contain any charges against the British Crown in view of the legal flaws contained in the decision. It was noted that with this attitude, Argentina intends to maintain the present status of its relations with Great Britain, in order not to create possible causes of tension on the eve of resuming in February the talks with the British Government on the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas, Sandwich and South Georgia Islands.

The sources noted that the arguments and the working of the note are being studied by the highest armed forces officials.

It was reported that a draft note submitted late last year to the military junta by Foreign Minister Oscar Montes is now being considered in the light of the opinions of approximately 20 jurists, who had been consulted on the existence of insolvable flaws in the decision.

Foreign Ministry spokesmen have noted that some complementary actions will be adopted simultaneously with the issuing of the note of rejection, to prevent it from eliciting negative reactions against Argentina from international forums such as the United Nations and the OAS.

Montes Interviewed

PY112252Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1920 GMT 11 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Cordoba, 11 Jan--Argentine Foreign Minister Oscar Antonio Montes has stated that "our government hopes to see Argentina's truth prevail." The minister added that "Argentina has made great efforts through frank dialog to obtain a solution to the serious border situation with Chile in the southern region of the continent."

He said: "The Argentine Government created a negotiating committee, headed by Gen Osiris Villegas, which sought to reach direct understanding. President Videla also sent letters to the Chilean president inviting him to make a joint effort.

"It is difficult to say what the most significant differences are, but we could, perhaps, say that for Argentina its sovereignty over the Atlantic coast down to Cape Horn is absolutely beyond dispute."

With regard to Argentina's main objectives at the International level, Montes indicated that"the defense of national sovereignty and territorial integrity is obviously the main objective. However, the efforts of the Foreign Ministry do not stop there. It seeks to keep Argentina in the privileged place, which is its by right, within the international community."

In a statement published today by the morning daily LA VOZ DEL INTERIOR, Montes stated that "relations between Argentina and the Holy See are excellent. Whatever events have taken place in connection with these relations have been discussed within the framework of sincere dialog and mutual respect."

When asked about the situation of the dispute regarding the Malvinas Islands, Montes said that upon his return from New York where the last round of talks with the UK was held, the head of the Argentine delegation had stated that the meeting was positive and much progress was attained, especially in matters related to procedure and working methodology.

He said: "The recovery of the Malvinas, Southern Georgias and Southern Sandwich Islands (which are also being negotiated) is one of the prime objectives of Argentina's foreign policy, and no efforts will be spared to fulfill this national desire, over which there is no disagreement among Argentines."

With regard to Argentine-Brazilian relations and relations with the rest of the continent, Montes said that "the current government has given the River Plate Basin and the relations with the countries which are part of it, top priority from the very beginning. In this regard among the most ticklish problems we had to overcome were the disagreements over the hydroelectric utilization of the Alto Parana and creation of rational and constructive formulas for understanding."

Throughout 1976 and especially during the eighth meeting of foreign ministers [passage indistinct] Argentina's desire to bring a new spirit into the region and take all the appropriate steps to attain concrete and effective solutions. As a result of this, and after difficult negotiations, Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina agreed in 1977 to hold meetings aimed at reconciling their rights and interests.

Regarding Bolivia's quest for a sea outlet and the measures which Argentina is willing to support in this regard, Montes indicated that "Argentina has supported, at the highest government level, Bolivia's desire to solve its landlocked situation. The final arrangement of the matter is in the hands of Bolivia, Chile, and Peru alone, but Argentina will support any solution stemming from an agreement between the parties involved."

As to Argentina's relations with Uruguay and the future steps which may be taken in this direction, Montes indicated that "our relations with Uruguay are at their highest point. The signing of the River Plate treaty in 1974 allowed us to overcome a problem and this in turn helped to tighten our bonds through a set of political, economic and cultural agreements. Very soon we will arrange the means to implement the decisions stated in the joint declarations signed by Presidents Videla and Mendez. These and other measures which will be implemented in the near future, will pave the way for true and concrete integration of the River Plate region."

Regarding Paraguay's desire to obtain a free port which would solve its commercial traffic problems, Montes indicated that "correctly understanding the Paraguayan desire to obtain a free port which would solve its commercial traffic problems, Argentina has temporarily granted the brother country a free zone in Rosario. At this point, and in view of the excellent level of our bilateral relations, a group of experts is studying the location of the final free zone whose nature and characteristics would fulfill Paraguayan desires."

As to the current status of relations with the United States, Montes said: "We believe that our relations with the U.S. Government have improved after U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's recent visit to our country. The joint communique issued on that occasion emphasized the various aspects of bilateral (?policy), outlining guidelines for mutual cooperation, especially with regard to nuclear development and repudiation of terrorism."

In conclusion Minister Montes spoke of the crisis which is being experienced by certain continental bodies such as LAFTA, and Argentina's position in this regard. He stated: "Argentina believes that it is necessary to reactivate the process of economic integration launched by LAFTA.

"For this we need the clearcut political support of the governments of LAFTA, and our permanent representatives to this organization have made obtaining this support one of their main objectives."

Envoy to Chile Recalled

FY111235Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1217 GMT 11 Jan 78 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Jan--It was reported here today that the Argentine Foreign Ministry has summoned the Argentine ambassadors to Chile, the United Nations and the OAS.

The call of these ambassadors has been interpreted here as being related to the border conflict with Chile over the British decision on the Beagle Channel. Local observers noted that the ambassadors would be briefed on the Argentine decision of rejecting the decision and on the reasons for this rejection.

While Gen Hugo Miatello (ret), Argentine ambassador in Santiago, is expected to arrive today, Enrique Ros and Julio Carasales, ambassadors to the United Nations and to the OAS, respectively, are expected to arrive next week.

MASSERA OBSERVES NAVAL MANEUVERS IN SOUTH

FY111940Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1300 GMT 11 Jan 78 FY

[Text] On board the aircraft carrier "25 de Mayo," 11 Jan--The three navy branches have carried out a training demonstration in the area where the sea fleet and the naval aviation force have been operating since a few days ago. The marine infantry, meanwhile, has been carrying out parallel exercises in the southern-most Argentine territory.

These exercises have reaffirmed our confidence in being able to defend national sovereignty in the southern Atlantic Ocean and southern regions. The exercises are being carried out like a true war, to create the necessary realism, and are using units which are abiding faithfully by the Roman proverb: If you want to live in peace, be prepared for war.

Vice Adm Armando Lambruschini, navy chief of staff; Vice Adm Antonio Vanek, navy operations commander; and Rear Adm Humberto Jose Barbuzzi, commander of the sea fleet, yesterday observed from the flagship, the aircraft carrier "25 de Mayo," the activities carried out by the sea fleet and naval aviation.

Argentine Navy Commander Emilio Eduardo Massera was received with honors aboard the flagship at 1855.

Antisubmarine, submarine, air defense and surface operations were carried out during the entire day. Navy aviation fulfilled day and night exercises with attack and fighter planes, helicopters, and antisubmarine and scout aircraft. To the south, reconnaissance planes, based at Comandante Expora and other bases in the Patagonia region carried out air control traffic operations.

In the afternoon, Vice Admiral Lambruschini, Vice Admiral Vanek and Rear Admiral Barbuzzi went by helicopter to the destroyer "Hercules," from where they closely followed the details of a new antiair coordination exercise and the use of ship-air missiles. They later went to the destroyer "Bouchard," where they observed surface and antisubmarine operations.

Sea supply maneuvers were simultaneously being carried out in other areas using navy and Government Oil Deposit [YPF] tanker ships.

Various tasks were organized and carried out with a complete synchronization particularly noted by the high-ranking navy officers, who also noted the excellent weather in the region, which favored all the exercises. Everything was made ready last night for this morning's activities observed by Commander Massera, who follows with interest the state of training of the navy troops. This interest has led him in the last few weeks to maintain constant contact with the three branches of the navy.

This report was sent from the aircraft carrier "25 de Mayo" by the special reporter of the newspaper LA NUEVA PROVINCIA and it is published in today's issue.

COMMENTARY ON REASONS FOR DIAZ BESSONE RESIGNATION

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 3 Jan 78 p 1 WA

[Excerpts] Today Interior Minister Maj Gen Albano Eduardo Harguin-deguy will temporarily take over the leadership of the Planning Ministry which was left vacant by the resignation of Maj Gen Ramon G. Diaz Bessone, who has also requested of the President of the nation and commander and chief of the Army to be retired from active service.

Yesterday the Presidential Press Office released Decree No 3985 which states that Gen Diaz Bessone's resignation is accepted and that the interior minister will take over the planning portfolio until Maj Gen Carlos Enrique Laidlaw is sworn in. Laidlaw is currently in charge of the State Intelligence Secretariat.

Although nothing official has been reported on the matter, it is likely that Laidlaw will change positions at the end of the month, once the chief of state returns from vacation at Futalaufquen, a few kilometers from the city of Esquel in Chubut Province.

According to what could be learned, the problem in the Planning Ministry reportedly dates back to the formulation of the National Plan. Despite the fact that the military junta had approved the draft of the working paper, some of the armed forces reportedly confidentially stated objections to several chapters of the draft bill. The objections involved the introduction, which contains a political-historical analysis on the basis of which conclusions were formulated. No consensus was reached on many of these conclusions.

In addition to this problem, the proposed national planning law which was drawn up by the Ministry of Planning was returned by the National Executive Power with numerous observations. Based on these observations the law was to be rewritten.

According to sources, when the document was returned to Gen Diaz Bessone, he resubmitted the same proposed law without taking into consideration the observations which had been made. It was affirmed by these sources that the proposed law reportedly reached the president's office with the approval of the other ministries, but without the signature of the head of the Economy Ministry, who had also stated some fundamental objections.

The same sources report that Dr. Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz then sent to the president, in writing, all the objections that he had previously made and stated, moreover, his firm opposition to the approval of the proposed law.

To this situation was reportedly added the adverse opinion of the Executive Power upon learning that the national planning law, as it was proposed, would virtually convert the Planning Ministry into a sort of "superministry" which would encroach upon other jurisdictions. And in addition, it would in practice complicate the normal development of activities pertaining to matters of state since it would embrace almost all aspects of administration, even the most important ones.

As a result of the opposition the project was practically "frozen" and in the meeting last Wednesday between Gen Diaz Bessone and the President of the Nation, Diaz Bessone told Lt Gen Videla that he had decided to resign as minister of planning and at the same time, to retire from active service in the army.

MONTONERO PLOT AGAINST MASSERA REPORTED

FY112138Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1748 GMT 11 Jan 78 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Jan--According to a magazine of nationalist nature and limited circulation, a plot against Adm Emilio Massera, member of the Argentine military junta, has been discovered here. The PRENSA ARGENTINA publication, which was founded in March, 1973, and appears weekly, states that the report comes "from reliable sources and from the Government House." According to the magazine, the attack against Admiral Massera, commander of the Argentine navy, was planned "by terrorists, who tried to infiltrate the 1973 Peronist movement, with the purpose of eliminating what they consider an important political rival who may obstruct their plans to win over the Argentine labor movement." The publication added that "the terrorists, who in Europe call themselves the Montonero Peronist movement, were reportedly following Admiral Massera and trying to establish some routine to enable them to predict where to attack him, but without success."

PRENSA ARGENTINA is currently run by Alfredo Nestor Ramirez. Previously, it was headed by Enrique Nores Bordereau, press chief of the Buenos Aires provincial governor, Gen Iberico Saint Jean (ret), who belongs to the so-called "hard" sector of the army.

COMMENTARY ON STATE OF EMERGENCY, STRIKES

Police Emergency Called 'Precaution'

FY120232Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0032 GMT 12 Jan 78 FY

[Text] La Paz, 11 Jan--Interior Minister Guillermo Jimenez Gallo gave little importance here today to the state of emergency declared for the armed, police and security forces, and denied the arrest of any student leaders during the past few hours. In answer to questions by reporters, Jimenez Gallo said that the emergency declared yesterday does not mean "that the country is experiencing a serious political situation," but is simply "a measure of precaution" against possible threats to public order.

Under the state of emergency declared by the commander in chief of the armed forces, soldiers, policemen and security forces are confined to their garrisons throughout the country.

Regarding student charges of detentions by the police yesterday during an attempt to hold a street rally organized by the interfaculty committee of La Paz University, the minister guaranteed that there were no arrests.

The minister said that within the current democratization process the government will not allow and will repress rallies and political activities which may threaten public order, although it will give broad guarantees to political acts which the government considers not to be of that nature.

Reports on Student Unrest

FY111238Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 11 Jan 78 FY

[From the "Facetas" program]

[Text] The state's security organizations controlled the march called by university students for Tuesday afternoon. There were small skirmishes for about 2 1/2 hours to disperse the demonstrators. Sandra Aliaga, a "Facetas" reporter, was at the scene of events and her report follows.

[Aliaga--begin recording] We are now in the vicinity of the streets and avenues which this afternoon was the scene of the events resulting from the university march announced for today, Tuesday. The proamnesty march announced by the inter-college committee for today, Tuesday, at 1800 could not be held. However, from 1800 until after 2030, many students would assemble, shout slogans or whistle and then disperse at the arrival of the national guardsmen, who would throw teargas at the students and chase them with clubs and dogs. National guardsmen were stationed all over the city beginning about 1630 Tuesday. The demonstrations took place from the Greater San Andres University to the (Topatera) bridge. Teargas was thrown at them everywhere: downtown, at the (Hucalasco) Plaza, the (Mendoza Bank) Plaza, and all through the (Garita del Lido) and (Buenos Aires) neighborhoods. Students who shouted [words indistinct] were clubbed and beaten. Four students were arrested at the (Mendoza Bank) Plaza. Policemen from the precinct located at the plaza said these arrested would be taken to the Interior Ministry.

Jeeps from the Interior Ministry were roaming the streets, along with several 110's [presumably some type of police vehicle], and at the (Buenos Aires) [word indistinct] armed palace security guards emerged to put an end to the university proamnesty demonstration.

At this hour, the city is again calm. [end recording]

Strikers Issue Counterproposals

PY111437Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 11 J[illegible] 78 PY

[From the "Facetas" program]

[Excerpt] The counterproposals made by representatives of the strikers to the government were disclosed during the past few hours. The document presenting the counterproposals is signed by Luis Adolfo Silas Salinas, Father (Julio) [name indistinct], and (Hugo Fernandez). We will now read this document:

We think it is very strange that after half a month of hunger strikes, the government would reject the mediation of the UN representative in an attempt to solve this serious problem.

We have just received the proposals which the supreme government sent us through Cardinal Maurer. We consider these proposals to be ambiguous and [word indistinct] under the present circumstances in which the lives of so many persons are at stake. We would like to convey to the government through our representative the following proposals:

1. That the supreme government issue a decree for a general and unrestricted amnesty to include prisoners, fugitives, all those exiled and under house arrest for political and union reasons. It is obvious that the word unrestricted does not, in this case, include those persons who have committed common crimes and are subject to our laws for this reason. This request is not only a demand from the strikers but a unanimous plea from all the citizenry.

2. Union activities and the right to congregate is not subject to the approval of any code. The very existence of unionism takes precedence to the approval of the labor code. The government can regulate unionism but it cannot prohibit it, as it is now doing. The right to form unions is not a privilege granted by the government, but rather a natural right guaranteed by our constitution. In view of this, we demand the immediate validity of unionism as the only instrument capable of guaranteeing respect for the right of all workers.

3. The strike does not try to defend workers who have willingly and seriously infringed our country's laws. We demand the reinstatement of jobs for all those persons who were dismissed for political and union reasons. The principle obstacle which has not allowed a great number of workers to return to their jobs has not been posed by the respective companies, but by instructions from the Interior Ministry.

4. The fact that the mining districts of Potosi and Oruro are still military zones is against any constitutionalization process. The repeal of that decree is absolutely necessary for the normal development of activity in union, political and personal fields.

Let us reiterate that this is the document containing the counterproposals to the suggestions put forth by the government to the strikers through Cardinal Clemente Maurer. Let us repeat that this religious authority met with the chief of state for more than 3 hours on Monday (?night).

Sucre Students Join Strike

FY111910Y Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1630 GMT 11 Jan 78 FY

[Text] There is a hunger strike at the San Francisco Javier University in Sucre. As of 1235, that is, only a few minutes ago, a hunger strike began among San Francisco Javier University students. At the same time a general strike without a time limit has been declared at our university.

An assembly, called by the Interfaculty Committee and begun at 1100, has studied the problems experienced by the country and the hunger strikes in La Paz, Oruro, Potosi and Cochabamba requesting, among other things, a general and unrestricted amnesty, rehiring of dismissed miners, the withdrawal of troops from mining districts and the legalization of labor and student organizations in this country.

As we know there was a 24-hour strike yesterday as a first step taken by the university students. After a long meeting this morning it was decided to begin a hunger strike in the university building and a general strike without time limit by the university students. Several commissions have been formed which will be in charge of controlling and accomplishing the two measures.

The interfaculty Committee will send messages to La Paz, Cochabamba, Oruro and Potosi, announcing the support from the Chuquisaca University students for the struggle in the conflict experienced by the country.

Strikers, Government to Talk

FY120116Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 11 Jan 78 FY

[Text] At approximately 1700 the highest Bolivian Catholic Church official, Cardinal Clemente Maurer, told journalists when leaving the Government Palace that the hunger strike was solved, but added that the communique with full details would be released by the government.

However, the various striking groups of La Paz reacted almost immediately, indicating through representatives of the Bolivian Permanent Assembly for Human Rights that they knew nothing of the government communique and that the announced arrangement was unilateral.

The official communique was released to the press half an hour later and according to Labor Minister Vargas Salinas it [words indistinct] the position of the strikers.

Here is the communique:

1. To broaden the amnesty announced by the government on 22 December making it extend to all Bolivians, in prison, exiled, [word indistinct] or underground, for political or union reasons, with the exception of those whose behavior is punishable under the laws currently in effect.

2. The reinstatement of dismissed workers will be studied by a committee made up of representatives of mining grassroots committees, chosen jointly by the workers, the appropriate mining enterprise and the Labor Ministry. This committee will review each case individually and in accordance with the regulations in effect. This action will be implemented immediately.

3. The reinstated workers will recover their tenure in accordance with the laws in effect, as long as they have received no indemnity payment for loss of tenure.

4. The government will study, as soon as possible, the implementation of meares aimed at guaranteeing the retirement pension[cesantia] of workers dismissed for political reasons.

5. The validity of this agreement depends on the immediate termination of hunger strikes and demonstrations of support for those strikes throughout the country.

[Dated] La Paz, 11 January, 1978.

In response to this communique Radio Cruz del Sur has received a telephone call from one of the striking groups, stating that they were unaware of any solution of the problem. At the same time, our press department picked up a communique issued by the executive board of the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, which is channelling the demands of the strikers. Here is the telephone report by our correspondent:

The Bolivian Permanent Assembly for Human Rights signed a communique a few minutes ago in response to the one signed recently by Cardinal Clemente Maurer and Interior Minister Jimenez Gallo regarding the hunger strike.

The communique states:

The representatives of the striking groups report the following:

1. The communique signed by the interior minister, representing the government, and Cardinal Maurer, representing the Catholic Church, came to our knowledge only at 1800 after being release through government news media.

2. The text of this communique was immediately conveyed to the various striking groups for analysis. To this movment, 1900, there are still come groups which have not stated their position.

3. The nature of the agreement and the importance of the persons who have signed it make it an appropriate basis for immediate opening of dialog.

Signed: Luis Adolfo Siles Salinas, Julio Tumiri, Hugo Fernandez

[Dated] La Paz, 11 January, 1978.

LEFTIST PARTIES TO FORM FRONT, NAME CANDIDATE

PY091020Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 7 Jan 78 p 4 PY

[Text] La Paz, 6 Jan--It was revealed here today that former president Hernan Siles Suazo will be the candidate of a broad front of leftist parties with military participation, in the coming elections on 9 July.

The running mate of the former president may be the center leader Walter Guevara Arce of the Authentic Revolutionary Party [PRA], a splinter group of the National Revolutionary Movement [MNR], or Col Jose Patino Ayoroa, former industry minister in President Hugo Banzer's government.

The final contacts for the forming of the front have finished. It was added that only a few details remain to be settled before the signing of the final document committing the participating parties and groups to form this leftist front for the coming elections.

Leaders of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] held meetings in the last few days to obtain military support for the front. There has been no confirmation of a military response to the MIR appeal.

It was reported that the front will be formed by the following parties:

The National Revolutionary Movement of the Left [MNRI], the Authentic Revolutionary Party [PRA], the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR], the Revolutionary Workers Party [POR], the Bolivian Communist Party [PCB], the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], youth sectors of the Bolivian Socialist Falange [FSE] and other smaller groups, apart from some retired military men, foremost among whom is the so-called "Ayoroa" group who call themselves "institutionalists."

It was said that the leaders of the front are concerned over the swift proclamation of the official candidate, Gen Juan Pereda, who has President Hugo Banzer's support.

It became known that agreement on Pereda's candidacy will be the subject for some high-level talks within the armed forces.

Pereda is supported by the military and by large political, civic, peasant and labor sectors.

The prospects of the front in the elections are uncertain, despite the fact that it has much support in state mining sectors and from the most radicalized labor unions.

MNRI DOCUMENT SEEKS SILES SUAZO'S RETURN

PY101400Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 10 Jan 78 PY

[Text] The National Revolutionary Movement of the Left [MNRI] has answered General Banzer's initiative to allow the political parties complete authorization to hold rallies to see who does and does not have support. The conditions of the MNRI are the following:

1. Immediate authorization for the return of Hernan Siles Suazo, secretary general and leader of the party, to the country and for his participation in the rallies.

2. Payment to the MNRI of only 10 percent of the amount of money used in the Santa Cruz, Communicado and La Paz rallies for the proclamation of the official candidate.

3. Making entire pages in the newspapers available for our propaganda, as it did for official advertisements on Friday, 6 January.

4. Permit Bolivian television to broadcast, prepare and publicize the propaganda for the said public event as it did for the official candidate's rally.

The national radio network should broadcast propaganda for our political events [illegible] any restrictions. It should be mentioned that the MNRI wants to call for a meeting which would include all citizens who favor our policy line.

This document refers to Siles Suazo. With respect to his political activity, it was made known during the past few days that he left Bolivia [as heard] to attend a meeting of the leftist parties in Caracas. (?Representatives) of the MNRI, the Revolutionary Party of the Nationalist Left [PRIN], the Authentic Revolutionary Party [PRA], the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], and the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR], all the parties which want to form a leftist opposition front during the next elections, (?attended). [passage indistinct]

FORMER SOCIALIST MINISTER RETURNS SECRETLY

PY112343Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2240 GMT 11 Jan 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 11 Jan--Socialist leader Marcelo Quiroga Santa Cruz, former minister under the government of Gen Alfredo Ovando Candia and one of the sponsors of the nationalization of petroleum in 1969, has said that he has returned to Bolivia to struggle for the cause of the people and national liberation.

At a clandestine press conference, the socialist politician said that his struggle does not involve the road to conspiracy but the road which "is opened by the masses through their mature, organized and tenacious actions."

KEY FIGURES IN NEW POLITICAL GROUP REVEALED

PY111916Y Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1630 GMT 9 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Under the name of Topater Civilian-Military Group [Agrupacion Civica-Militar Topater], four former ministers, four former army commanders and other retired military men have formed a political organization.

The organization has released a 5-page document which analyzes the country's conflict. Former ministers Jose Patino Ayoroa, Juan Ayoroa Ayoroa, Miguel Ayoroa and (Mario Alberto Mora) are among the most reknowned members of this party organization.

The signers of the document have decided to abandon [words indistinct] in order to actively participate in the country's democratic activities. They support a true armed forces doctrine and will not resort to street activities in order to obtain votes.

They add that the form of government which the armed forces are currently establishing does not express the will of the majority of the armed forces institution.

The document energetically censures the handling of the maritime question and maintains that the sacred cause of seeking a port, which was (?strengthened) by the Charana embrace, is a lost cause for the Bolivian Armed Forces.

EL DIARIO QUERIES BANZER ON TALKS WITH CHILE

PY111414Y La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 3 Jan 78 p 3, 11 PY

[Undated interview granted by Bolivian President Hugo Banzer to EL DIARIO reporter Jaime Moreno Laval in La Paz]

[Excerpt] [Question] One of the points of the new Bolivian political plan is the "return to the sea under conditions which meet the demands of history, of national development and of the dignity of the Bolivian people." What are the current demands of history?

[Answer] A landlocked country subject to constant and obstinate changes of factors, which do not allow it the necessary power of decision, such as increases in freight, insurance and others which directly affect its export and import movements, suffers a limitation of its sovereignty. Bolivia is currently undergoing an economic and social development take-off which is severely limited by its landlocked situation. Consequently, the current demand of history is to obtain a free and sovereign outlet to the Pacific, something which we have publicly and repeatedly asserted on various occasions.

[Question] How would you explain the current state of the sea outlet negotiations with Chile?

[Answer] I am not precisely the person who should explain the current state of the negotiations. Bolivia has made a concrete proposal and it has received an answer. Afterward, in accordance with the 1929 bilateral agreements, Chile consulted Peru. This country in turn has submitted a proposal which is different from the original Bolivian proposal. From that point on the negotiations have stagnated. A significant advance was made during the meeting I had with the Chilean and Peruvian presidents in Washington and during the meeting which the Bolivian foreign minister held with the Chilean and Peruvian foreign ministers afterward in New York. But for the time being the situation remains the same without any major changes.

[Question] Who will be named Bolivian ambassador to Chile, and when? If he is not named soon, do you not believe that this would be an obstacle to the negotiations?

[Answer] Bolivia accepted a renewal of diplomatic relations with Chile, after a long period of their having been ruptured, with the understanding and good faith that dialog and direct communication would permit the overcoming of obstacles on the path toward the seeking of reciprocally appropriate solutions for the two countries concerning our landlocked situation. During the meeting of the three presidents in Washington and the three foreign ministers in New York it was agreed to name special delegates from the three countries in order to discuss this matter and to give it the flexibility demanded by their peoples. Diplomatic relations only make sense when the involved parties face common problems with a spirit of greatness and through constructive dialog. The last Bolivian ambassador to Chile has just returned to the country after completing his tour of duty and at an opportune time my government will name his replacement.

[Question] In September, 1975, you said that your goal as a man was that of "wanting to see this country happy, with enough of everything to live well, with all the peasants literate and with a standard of living compatible with human dignity. And with a sea..." Eight months before leaving the presidency, do you feel frustrated for not having obtained the sea for Bolivia?

[Answer] The levels of illiteracy and unemployment are still high, but they have decreased spectacularly during recent years, both because of new job sources and because of the intensive work carried out in the education sector, especially in the rural area. Consequently, the conditions have changed favorably for the majority of people.

Regarding the maritime question, I believe that my advisers and I have carried out our duty and complied with our historical commitment and we have reached the point permitted by the circumstances under our control, therefore in no way do I feel frustrated. But my goal as a man, as you indicate, has in no way been changed.

COMPOSITION OF ELECTORAL COURT ANNOUNCED

PY111911Y Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1630 GMT 11 Jan 78 PY

[Text] By government decree the National Election Court has been constituted in the following manner:

(Julio Mansilla Larrea) and (Marcelo Cespedes) as ordinary representatives of the legislative branch, with (Mario Rico Salazar) and (Alfonso Zarate) as deputies; (Jorge Vivar Bustillo) as ordinary representative for the judicial branch, with (Adrian Camacho Ponce) as deputy. (Carlos Valeguillo Pasardo) as ordinary representative of the executive branch, with (Hugo del Granado) as deputy; the political parties will be represented by (Agustin Camacho Pozo), with Humberto Menoizabal) as a deputy. Mr (Julio Mansilla Larrea) was appointed president of the National Election Court. The members of the court will be sworn in today by Supreme Court President Raul Romero Linares.

BOMB DISCOVERED IN EL DIARIO BUILDING

PY111909Y Sucre Radio La Planta in Spanish 1630 GMT 11 Jan 78 PY

[Text] The La Paz newspaper EL DIARIO has almost fallen victim in an attack. A parcel with a clockwork, connected to three dynamite sticks, was discovered in the entrance hall to the office. Specialized personnel have defused the bomb.

COMIBOL GENERAL MANAGER RESIGNS, IS REPLACED

PY111629Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1508 GMT 11 Jan 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 11 Jan--It was reported here today that Carlos Alcoreza, general manager of the Bolivian Mining Corporation [COMIBOL] has resigned his post.

Col Enrique Vargas was appointed to replace him.

Bolivia is the second leading world tin producer and 75 percent of the national tin production, which is estimated at 30,000 metric tons per annum, is controlled by the state.

TEXT OF TRADE AGREEMENT WITH PRC PUBLISHED

PY111658Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 10 Jan 78 p 27 PY

[Text] With the avowed objective of "reinforcing the friendship between the two countries and of strengthening and developing their trade relations on the basis of equality and mutual benefit," the governments of Brazil and the PRC last Saturday signed in Peking the first trade agreement which sets down the basis for the relations between the two countries. The text of the agreement was made public by Itamaraty yesterday.

Itamaraty considers the signing of the agreement as the most important step for the rapprochement of the two countries since the reestablishment of diplomatic relations in October, 1974. The first consequence of the signing of the agreement should be a significant expansion of trade between the two countries. This trade is currently highly favorable to Brazil, which exported close to $8 million and imported less than $300,000 in 1976.

The following is the text of the trade agreement:

"The government of the Federative Republic of Brazil and the government of the People's Republic of China, henceforth referred to as contracting parties," [quotes as published] imbued with the purpose of reinforcing the friendship between the two countries and of strengthening and developing their trade relations on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, have resolved to conclude the present trade agreement:

Article I. The contracting parties commit themselves to make the greatest effort and to take all the necessary measures to promote and expand trade between the two countries, to gradually increase the variety of traded goods and to do everything possible to keep their trade in balance.

In keeping with their respective legislation on foreign trade and currency exchange, the contracting parties will grant one another the necessary facilities for the import and export of goods produced by each country.

Article II. The contracting parties will grant one another most-favored-nation treatment never inferior to that which they have granted or will grant to a third country regarding permits, customs fees and other taxes or fees levied on the import and export of goods, as well as to regulations, customs formalities and procedures.

The above-mentioned treatment will not apply to:

A) Special benefits, preferences, privileges and exemptions which the contracting parties have granted or will grant to neighboring countries for the purpose of facilitating border trade;

B) Special benefits the contracting parties have granted or will grant to third countries by virtue of their participation in regional or subregional integration agreements; and

C) Special benefits which the contracting parties have granted or will grant to third countries by virtue of their participation in multilateral trade agreements among developing countries.

Article III. The setting of prices on goods to be traded, which will have as a reference point quotations on goods of equal or comparable quality and specifications on the international market, will be made by buyer and seller in the respective commercial contracts.

Article IV. The payment in the commercial operations between the two countries will be made in freely convertible currency agreed on by purchaser and seller, in accordance with regulations existing in the two countries regarding foreign exchange control.

Article V. The contracting parties will take all measures to insure that the properties of manufactured and semimanufactured goods exported by each contracting party will increase gradually without hurting the trade of new products and traditional goods.

Article VI. The contracting parties agree that trade between the two countries will be carried out by legal entities or real persons who are engaged in foreign trade in Brazil and by the foreign trade state agencies in the PRC.

Purchaser and seller can sign, at any time during the period over which this agreement is valid, contracts for the import or export of goods considered necessary by both parties, for the purpose of facilitating trade development between the two countries.

Article VII. With the purpose of developing trade relations between the two countries, the contracting parties will try to promote exchange visits of commercial delegations, as well as the installation of commercial fairs and expositions. For that purpose, both parties will grant one another facilities and conditions normally offered by the respective legislation in force.

Article VIII. The stipulations of this agreement do not apply to restrictive measures which any of the two contracting parties may adopt for the protection of national security, public health and the sanitary conditions of the fauna and flora, as well as for the protection of the nation's artistic, historic and archeological patrimony.

Article IX. The contracting parties agree to set up a joint trade commission charged with overseeing the compliance with the present agreement and with studying possibilities and measures to expand mutually beneficial trade.

Initially that commission will meet every 2 years alternately in Peking and Brasilia and the exact date for its meeting will be decided by mutual consent of both contracting parties.

Article X. Upon the termination of this agreement, all the commercial contracts and financial arrangements related to trade signed during the period in which this agreement is in force will continue to be carried out according to the provisions of this agreement.

Article XI. The present agreement will provisionally become effective on the date of its signing and will definitely be in force on the date when both parties inform one another of the compliance with internal legal formalities. The present agreement will be valid for 3 years and it will be automatically be extended for successive 1-year periods provided one of the contracting parties does not inform the other party of its intention to renounce it in a written note 3 months prior to its expiration date.

PROPOSAL PLANNED TO MEET URENCO NUCLEAR DEMANDS

PY120206Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 11 Jan 78 p 14 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Within a few days Brazil will forward a document to URENCO--the consortium made up of the Netherlands, Great Britain and the FRG--proposing that the statutes of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]--which provides for effective safeguards--be strengthened and implemented "indiscriminately" by all member countries.

Brazilian officials feel that this measure would be sufficient to satisfy the Netherlands demands regarding the supply of enriched uranium for the nuclear plants of Angra II and Angra III. This decision was made yesterday at meeting held in Brasilia by Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira, Mines and Energy Minister Shigeaki Ueki and NUCLEBRAS President Paulo Nogueira Batista.

The decision shows that Brazil does not intend, at first, to negotiate special safeguards for the contract signed between URENCO and NUCLEBRAS, but to strengthen through the implementation of Article 12-A-5 the responsibilities of the IAEA, of which Brazil is a member and with which it had already signed, along with the FRG, a document which guarantees its nuclear agreement and consequently the activities of the Angra dos Reis nuclear plants.

The document will serve as a basis for negotiations which should begin soon with the governments of the Netherlands, Great Britain and the FRG, concerning the additional safeguards which the Netherlands Government asked from Brazil. Once the preliminary negotiations are concluded, the four countries will begin talks with the IAEA to implement, through mechanisms provided for in its statute, especially Article 12, the rules of procedures established as valid by Brazil, the Netherlands, the FRG and Great Britain.

At least this is the desire of the Brazilian Government, which is upset, according to diplomatic circles, because Brazil was the only country which has been consistently asked for additional safeguards to implement part of an agreement which has already been guaranteed by the IAEA itself. The three members of URENCO are also members of the IAEA. This must have been one of the strong reasons which led Brazil to propose the implementation of the IAEA statute "indiscriminately."

Brazil, which at first thought that the document signed with the FRG and the IAEA would be sufficient, was surprised by the request for additional safeguards made by the Netherlands for the supply of uranium by URENCO, but agreed from the beginning to study the proposal made by the Netherlands foreign minister to Azeredo da Silveira in New York during the UN General Assembly in September.

After that, new contacts were made between the two governments, but without reaching any decision. Brazilian diplomats explain that only a few weeks ago the Netherlands organized its cabinet. As is known, the previous cabinet was only acting ad interim.

Article 12-A-5, on which Brazil intends to base the safeguards for the URENCO-NUCLEBRAS agreement, provides that "regarding any IAEA project or any other arrangement in which the interested parties ask for the implementation of safeguards, the IAEA will have the following rights, to the degree that they apply to that project or arrangement:

1. To approve the means to be used for chemical treatment of irradiated material, only aimed at guaranteeing that that chemical treatment will not be used for military purposes and will conform to the norms of applicable security;

2. To demand that special fissionable material recovered or created as byproducts to be used for peaceful ends, under the continuous safeguard of the IAEA, in research activities or in reactors either in existence or under construction, as specified by the interested member or members of the interested parties;

3. To demand that all surplus special fissionable material recovered or created as by-products, in addition to the amounts necessary for use in reactors as indicated above, be returned to the IAEA to avoid accumulation of these products, provided that by request of the interested member or members at some later time, special fissionable material turned over to the IAEA will be immediately returned to the interested parties under the conditions indicated above.

The IAEA statute, signed at the international conference held to create the agency at the UN building in New York in October, 1956, was approved in July, 1957, and ratified the same year. In addition to Brazil, more than 80 countries are members of the IAEA.

AZEREDO: PARANA WATER LEVEL MAY BE NEGOTIATED

PY120215Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 10 Jan '8 p 7 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia--In an interview granted yesterday, Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira admitted that the problem of the decreased water volume caused by the filling of the Itaipu Dam reservoir may be negotiated with Argentina during the coming tripartite meeting scheduled for February in Asuncion. However, he denied that the matter is already part of the agenda and that Brazil wants to raise the subject at that meeting.

In response to a question, Silveira explained that "since from 12 to 20 days will be necessary to fill the reservoir, Argentina could allow a decrease of the water volume of the Parana River during this period, which is relatively short. Brazil would then not need to make the huge expenditures demanded by the available technical options to guarantee the normal volume of water during this time."

Silveira denied that the filling of the Itaipu Dam was a mere "element of negotiation," and explained that "the matter is not related to the goals of the tripartite meeting." Although he did make it clear that Brazil was interested in negotiating some solution. Also on the subject of filling the Itaipu Dam, Azeredo da Silveira explained that Brazil is prepared to offer guarantees that it will maintain the normal volume of the water in the Parana River, and added that to achieve this several options are being studied.

In response to another question the Brazilian foreign minister stated that President Geisel's meeting with Argentina's President Jorge Videla depends on the "opportunity and the development of negotiations." One of the journalists drew the minister's attention to the fact that the Argentine daily CLARIN has been insistently announcing a meeting between the two presidents and asked the foreign minister for a clear-cut statement.

Azeredo da Silveira said: "I have never excluded, nor am I excluding, the possibility of such a meeting. Such a possibility has always existed. However, as I say, it depends on the opportunity and the development of negotiations. [paragraph continues]

I want you to make it clear that I am making this statement in response to a question and not making a gratuitous remark. The last time I was asked about this, when I said that there were no prospective talks regarding such meeting, I ended up looking like I did not favor such a meeting or as if Brazil wanted no rapprochement with President Videla. We are greatly interested in strengthening our bonds of friendship with Argentina, but so far no talks are underway regarding this meeting."

AGRICULTURE AGREEMENT WITH CANADA IMPLEMENTED

FY110128Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Jan 78 p 27 FY

[Excerpt] Brasilia--Canadian Ambassador to Brazil James Stone announced yesterday that the Brazilian-Canadian Joint Commission will meet in April, 1978, in Brasilia to install the agricultural work groups created by the memorandum of understanding signed in October, 1977, in Ottawa by Brazilian Agriculture Minister Alysson Paulinelli and his Canadian counterpart Eugene Whelam. The memorandum was formally implemented yesterday at the office of Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira thrcugh an exchange of notes signed by the foreign minister and the Canadian ambassador.

In addition to creating the work group, the memorandum is designed to expand cooperation between Canada and Brazil in the agricultural sector and to promote an exchange of technology including research in agriculture, exchange of scientists, experts and technicians in such fields as plant genetics, animal breeding, veterinary science and agricultural productivity.

The Canadian ambassador stated that the meeting to be held in April would reflect in practical terms the cooperation agreed upon through theoretical guidelines included in the memorandum. "In addition to current industrial and political cooperation between Brazil and Canada, agriculture represents a new phase in which two of the greatest producers of food joint their efforts to fulfill their historical function of supplying a large part of the world which is not self-sufficient in food products." While presiding over the meeting, Silveira talked about the political relations between the two countries, emphasizing that the visit made to Brazil by Canadian Foreign Minister Donald Jamieson began a period of mutual consultations which the Brazilian foreign minister termed "historic." Agriculture Minister Paulinelli, who was also present at the ceremony, emphasized the importance of the cooperation which was made formal through the exchange of notes, and pointed out that Brazil seeks technologies which can increase agricultural productivity, allowing the sale of high-quality products at competitive prices.

GEISEL ITINERARY IN MEXICO ANNOUNCED

FY110030Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 10 Jan 78 FY

[Text] President Ernesto Geisel will leave Brazil at 0630 on 14 January to visit Mexico City, where he will arrive at 1730, 1530 Brasilia time.

On 15 January the president will have the morning free and in the afternoon he will visit the archeological areas of [names indistinct] and in the evening he will attend the show of the Mexican folk ballet. His visit will end on Wednesday [words indistinct] with the signing of a joint declaration. Then he will return to Brazil with stops in Merida and Curacao. He is expected to arrive in Brazil at 0200 on 19 January.

UEKI TO VISIT CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN APRIL

PY051305Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 5 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Mines and Energy Minister Shigeaki Ueki leaves for Czechoslovakia in April. He will discuss imports of components for thermoelectric plants in the southern part of the country. These plans will compensate for the drop in electricity production to be caused by the filling of the reservioir for the future Itaipu plant.

FIGUEIREDO WILL RESTORE SOME POLITICAL RIGHTS

PY112044Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Jan 78 p 1 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia--Although not favoring a broad amnesty, Gen Joao Baptista Figueiredo will have to accept or even propose constitutional amendments to the law governing the activities of those who had their mandates canceled and of those who had their political rights suspended. According to reports released by the official candidate and by his advisers, the future president intends to amend the inelegibility law to allow those citizens whose rights had been canceled or suspended 10 years ago to join political parties without restriction, with the right to vote and to be elected, even in the 1980 election for mayors and the 1982 election of congressmen, state legislators and governors.

General Figueiredo also believes that the federal government should submit the records of all those whose rights had been canceled and who are eligible for review to a superior court, certainly the Superior Military Court, to correct possible injustices and errors in the revolutionary laws.

MAGALHAES PINTO INTERVIEWED ON CANDIDACY

PY102116Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 7 Jan 78 p 4 PY

[Interview with Senator Magalhaes Pinto by journalists during lunch in the Senate restaurant in Brasilia on 6 January]

[Excerpts] [Question] Would you agree to debate Gen Baptista Figueiredo over a radio-television network?

[Answer] I believe that debate is a democratic practice and would be useful, but I believe that the time for this has not yet arrived, since the TSE [Superior Electoral Court] has not yet opened the political campaign.

[Question] Does your candidacy have the possibility of getting military support?

[Answer] I believe that Brazilian Army officers always obey the law and generally support whoever has been chosen in democratic conventions or elections. I am therefore sure that I will have all the support of the country's armed forces if I am chosen as a candidate.

[Question] Do you believe that the party conventions will be free?

[Answer] I believe they will. Every day I read in the newspapers that the governors will start to put pressure on the delegates. I am warning that I do not accept that. It should be condemned. I do not accept pressure on the convention delegates.

[Question] Is ARENA acting correctly by saying that it already has a candidate when at least two people will present themselves as candidates?

[Answer] I understand that position perfectly because in reality the ARENA directorate is completely subordinated to its honorary president, President Geisel. Therefore, upon receiving the designation from the president, the directorate took it as an accomplished fact. From now on, the directorate must pay attention to the existence of another candidate who belongs to the ARENA, and I am that candidate.

[Question] General Figueiredo's candidacy was announced as necessary for the continuation of the institutionalization process and with the argument that he would be in a better position to do so since he is an army officer. Do you agree with this?

[Answer] I consider this to be a subjective judgment of President Geisel. Everybody knows my past, that I am a man who always participated in direct elections, always acted democratically, and always stood for the state of law. This would be the best guarantee for the installation of a democracy unqualified by adjectives, even "relative."

[Question] Could the convention rules be changed? Would you react if they were changed?

[Answer] I would react against that. I would not accept that. I believe that a candidate for the nation's presidency is not a joke. I am not committed to groups' interests. The nation's president delivered a speech on 31 December. He focused on economic and financial aspects but he ended by making an appeal that no personal interests prevail, no group interests prevail. I believe that those groups should be taking it easy and stop all the pressure they are using throughout the country.

[Question] Should your attempt be barred and should you not be elected, would you continue your campaign?

[Answer] I am sure that there will be no "little package" [reference to package of measures enacted by the government in April, 1977, to bypass congressional opposition and insure electoral gains] to trip up my political career. I will continue my campaign beginning next month by visiting the states and cities which have invited me to take the word to them. I am sure that when I present myself to ARENA as a candidate I will have the backing of all segments of Brazilian society and people.

[Question] Senator, would you agree to drop your candidacy under some conditions?

[Answer] I would not. I will go to the convention. I believe that going to the convention is the natural fate of a candidate. He has to end up going to the convention, because there is where the fate of a candidate must be decided.

[Question] Will that be your position even after talking with President Geisel?

[Answer] President Geisel would not see me to ask me to quit. He has not called me in so far. And if I ask for a meeting with President Geisel and he accepts, I will use the occasion to tell him about the significance of my candidacy for public opinion.

[Question] Wouldn't that position sidetrack you within your party?

[Answer] I do not know if I or they will be sidetracked.

[Question] Some revolutionary leaders have been punished for doing what you are doing now. Do you see the possibility of the same risk?

[Answer] I admit that I am running the risk of being elected president of the nation.

[Question] Would you seek the support of ARENA sectors which do not go along with the government?

[Answer] I will seek general support, from the so-called ARENA 1, ARENA 2 or even ARENA 3. And the existence of these different sectors demonstrates the party's failure in not fulfilling its mission.

[Question] Are you not afraid of being considered in defiance of the government by a movement which you helped to launch?

[Answer] I believe that what has happened now is defiance of my position. I am not the one who stands in defiance.

[Question] What has happened now?

[Answer] The launching of two candidacies.

[Question] Of two candidacies?

[Answer] Yes, that for the president and vice president without any understanding with me.

[Question] Would you consider a meeting with General Figueiredo to talk about your candidacy?

[Answer] I do not want to use the word consider so that nobody would think that I am hinting about meeting, but obviously everyone knows that I am a man who is creating positive attitudes in Brazil. I could not refuse a meeting with him provided he takes the initiative.

[Question] Senator, what do you think of the process for the choice of the official candidate?

[Answer] I believe that it was no good. The official candidate was not given time or opportunity to consult with the only self-proclaimed candidate and party colleague... I believe that the process was no good.

[Question] Do you believe that the president was inconsiderate in not having consulted with you?

[Answer] No. I do not believe that he was inconsiderate. I accepted his apology. The message that he was forced to act more rapidly than expected and that he had no time to call me in.

[Question] What were the reasons given by the president's envoy to justify that precipitate action?

[Answer] I did not ask, and he did not say.

[Question] It was a very short talk, was it not?

[Answer] No. It was a long talk. But in the face of an accomplished fact I did not have to ask for reasons. My decision was to continue my campaign.

SIGNIFICANT SHIP SALES TO MEXICO SEEN LIKELY

PY111117Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 10 Jan--Brazil has the possibility of exporting ships worth up to $100 million to Mexico, following contacts to be carried out during President Geisel's visit to Mexico, scheduled for this weekend.

The report was released by the Associated Shipyards of Brazil (ESABRAS) sources, adding that negotiations began 6 months ago, during PEMEX President Jose Dias Serrano's visit to Brazil. He then expressed interest in exchanging Mexican oil for Brazilian ships. The same source added that in addition to the sale of four to six medium-sized ships, there are excellent opportunities for exporting oil exploration platforms.

ESABRAS President Arthur Joao Donato and ESABRAS Superintendent Adolfo Barroso de Vasconcellos will be members of President Geisel's entourage in his visit to Mexico.

BRIEFS

PETROBRAS ORDERS TANKERS--PETROBRAS' revenues for maritime freight in 1978 will be $50 million less than they were in 1977. PETROBRAS has just ordered from Ishikawajima Shipyards of Brazil Inc. (ISHIBRAS) the construction of eight tankers worth $2.2 billion. The construction time for the eight tankers is estimated at 25 months and the first delivery is scheduled for January, 1980, the others following every 90 days. [Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 11 Jan 78 PY]

OIL RATIONALIZATION CAMPAIGN--The campaign for the rationalization of oil consumption is already defined and one of its recommendations is to regulate diesel-operating vehicles more strictly and to have a more efficient operation of those industries using fuel oil. [Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 5 Jan 78 PY]

BRASPETRO PRODUCTION IN COLOMBIA--According to company spokesmen, BRASPETRO oil production in Colombia during the first 11 months of 1977 totaled 3.8 million barrels. This figure represents a 40-percent increase over the same period last year. During November, 392,000 barrels were produced, an average of 13,000 barrels daily. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1725 GMT 7 Jan 78 PY]

DATA PROCESSING--Paris, 9 Jan--The Brazilian enterprises SHARP, INFPAR and DATASERVE signed a data processing cooperation agreement with the French enterprise LOGABAX. The cooperation agreement includes the L-X 5000 Transactional Information System [Sistema Transaccional de Informatica L-X 5000]. LOGABAX is well-known for its experience with minicomputers, and its system is used by finance companies, banks, postal services and telecommunications. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1513 GMT 9 Jan 78 PY]

ALL ENVOYS IN SOUTH AMERICA REPORTEDLY CALLED HOME

PY111845Y Buenos Aires HERALD in English 11 Jan 78 p 1 PY

[Text] Santiago--All Chilean ambassadors in South America, as well as ambassadors to the Organization of American States (OAS), the United Nations (UN) were called to Santiago yesterday in the midst of mounting tension between Argentina and Chile over the use and occupation of the Beagle Channel area.

Earlier in the day, Chile's ambassador in Argentina, Rene Rojas Galdames, surprised political observers by flying home to report to his government. Later came the news that Chilean ambassadors throughout the continent had been called to Santiago for consultation.

CARVAJAL MEETS AMBASSADORS, COMMENTS ON BEAGLE

PY112018Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1822 GMT 11 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile 11 Jan--In response to a request for his opinion on the Argentine Navy maneuvers in the southern Atlantic, Chilean Foreign Minister Patricio Carvajal stated: "It seems that psychological warfare to which we are paying little attention is underway."

However, Admiral Carvajal stated that at this point he is acting navy commander in chief, replacing Adm Jose Toribio Merino, who is on vacation.

Carvajal spoke with journalists at the end of his first meeting with Chilean ambassadors in Latin America which had been called for a briefing on the Chilean position in the Beagle conflict with Argentina. The minister stated: "The meeting was motivated by the need to acquaint our ambassadors with the current situation with Argentina and explain to them why our cause is just, so that they can have the information and pass it on to the government, diplomatic corps and public in general of the countries where they are stationed."

When asked whether Argentina would accept a legal solution, Carvajal said that "it is not the matter of Argentina accepting legal solutions or not. The world is ruled by international law. All we need do is abide by international law, and we hope that Argentina will do the same."

Reports from Buenos Aires indicate that the Argentine military government is getting ready to reject, within the next couple of weeks, the ruling of the international panel that three islands located within the Beagle Channel belong to Chile, because Argentina believes that the consequences of this ruling may endanger its sovereignty.

Carvajal stated that he had personally given a broad report on the situation to the ambassador of the United States, but added that officially the United States had made no offer to mediate between Argentina and Chile.

He added: "We have not, even though the Argentine press seems to want us to do so, become involved in rhetoric, nor are we giving excess importance to maneuvers which are normal at this time of the year."

Questioned about what Chile would do should Argentina reject the ruling of the arbitration panel, Carvajal stated: "That is their problem. We are abiding by international law. We have said that we accept the ruling. They have made a problem for themselves by saying that they will reject it. Fortunately enough, we do not have to face such a problem. We are simply abiding by the law. We have fulfilled all the requirements of the ruling, which states that the court (International Court of Justice) must be informed of the steps taken."

Further Details

PY112114Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 11 Jan 78 PY

[Excerpts] Chile will launch a worldwide offensive to explain its true rights regarding the Beagle Channel issue. Chilean Foreign Minister Patricio Carvajal has just disclosed this fact. He added that Chile will not be influenced by theatrics.

Foreign Minister Carvajal held a 3-hour meeting this morning with all Chilean ambassadors in Latin America and Chilean representatives to the United Nations and the OAS.

[Carvajal--begin recording] The fundamental objective of this meeting is to brief all our ambassadors about the present Beagle issue with Argentina, brief them about our rights in this cause so that, after they have been briefed, they in turn can report on this issue to the officials, diplomatic corps and public of the countries where they are staying. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Carvajal added that the Chilean public should have complete confidence in their authorities, who are working in the best possible manner to uphold our national rights. [Begin recording]

In describing the second round of negotiations between Julio Phillippi and General Osiris Villegas [Chilean and Argentine negotiators], an Argentine reporter stated that Chile clings to the legal aspect, but he said this in a pejorative manner, between quotes. But we are very proud to say that we cling to the legal aspect because we believe that it is international law and not the law of the jungle which regulates peaceful coexistence between civilized nations. [end recording]

Vice Admiral Carvajal said that the calm attitude shown by Chile which is based on a purely legal basis, not theatrics, has even surprised the Argentine press. [begin recording]

The important thing is to be confident that what we are doing [words indistinct] we are absolutely certain about the rights of our cause and we are going to defend it with a calm but firm attitude. We are going to keep the ambassadors briefed, and this is precisely the objective of this meeting, so that our ambassadors in the Americas will be able to inform the other foreign ministries with complete knowledge of the facts. In addition to Chilean ambassadors in the Americas, there are at this meeting international law professors briefing our ambassadors to Europe and to the Middle and Far East.

Well, the Argentines are carrying out a psychological war, but we do not pay much attention to it. You are aware that they are reporting that Pinochet is making a strange trip to the southern region. President and Mrs Pinochet will go to Concepcion. There is nothing strange in this. It has nothing to do with military maneuvers.

I believe they are also reporting that Admiral Merino is also in the south reviewing navy units. This is completely false. Admiral Merino is on vacation and I am replacing him. I and the Navy commander also know that we have not, as the Argentine press is reporting, carried out any maneuver or given extraordinary importance to these alleged troop movements.

During this time of the year, force movements are probable, but they are simply to relieve troops. There are people who are appointed in the south--(?Admiral Carreras) was in the south. We have units which hold exercises, but there has not been any movement aimed at reinforcing our forces. Our maneuvers are rather aimed at strengthening our true rights, and this is the objective of this meeting at the ambassadorial level. [end recording]

The foreign minister commented that if Argentina rejects the UK decision, Argentina is going to confront more serious problems than Chile. [begin recording]

It is Argentina which will have to face problems. Chile is already fulfilling international law [words indistinct]. They have created their own problem by saying they will reject the award. Fortunately, we do not have to face that kind of problem. We are simply fulfilling this decision, as we have fulfilled all regulations required by decision, which stated that the court must be informed about measures to be taken.

We have reported to the court all the measures we have taken, and furthermore we have asked them if in their judgment there are any further steps which we should take. [end recording]

Asked if in view of this problem the motto printed on the Chilean seal--"Through Reason or Force"--will be enforced, Foreign Minister Carvajal answered: [begin recording]

Well, this motto has always been enforced, but what I am saying is that there is no reason to use any measures of force since we are completely supported by the law. International law is a very important thing, since in case there is any action which violates this law, the International Court of Justice will issue its decision. And if this is the case, we have, as we have repeatedly stated, a treaty which was specifically signed with Argentina, which was ratified in Santiago on 27 December (?1972), which was registered in the United Nations, and through which both parties are obliged to solve their controversies by appealing to the International Court of Justice. [end recording]

Finally, the foreign minister noted there was always hope to renew the negotiations but that Argentina had to change its present attitude, an attitude which caused the failure of the last negotiations held in Buenos Aires.

BEAGLE NEGOTIATOR WEIGHS ARGENTINE REJECTION

PY111931Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1505 GMT 11 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, 11 Jan--The British arbitral decision which granted Chile three islands in the southern Beagle Channel is "unappealable," according to a statement made today by Chilean jurist Julio Philippi. Philippi, chief of the Chilean delegation to the talks held with the Argentines regarding the boundary problem between Chile and Argentina in the southernmost part of the continent, emphasized that "Argentina cannot reject the decision."

News cables from Argentina indicate that the military government will soon reject the arbitral decision, and part of that nation's navy is cruising in the disputed zone.

Philippi said, "The parties have nothing to say when, as in this case, the sentence is unappealable. It should just be accepted."

When asked about the possible consequences of a negative answer from Argentina, Philippi said: "Nothing would happen because the sentence is fulfilled. Chile is in possession of Nueva, Lennox and Picton Islands. We have always been on those islands. Chile's rights are obviously clear," he added.

When questioned about a possible armed conflict between Chile and Argentina, he answered: "That's absurd. A war for what? It would be crazy to go to war when you lose a verdict. That would mean two violations of international law--one, not accepting the decision, and two, attacking the winner."

Chilean lawyer Jose Miguel Barros, Chile's arbitral agent in the Beagle Channel dispute, said: "I believe in the Buenos Aires government's goodwill and that the Argentine Republic will keep its word given when signing the various instruments which led to arbitration of the old Beagle dispute."

Barros then made reference to the attitude taken by the Argentine admiral, Emilio Massera, considered "menacing" by the Chilean press. He said: "If journalistic reports truly reflect his opinion, then the least I can say is that the admiral and I speak two different languages."

He concluded by saying: "I have always understood that the leadership in foreign affairs was in the hands of the president of the republic and that the official opinion of our neighboring country was expressed by the foreign minister."

SAFE-CONDUCTS GIVEN SEVEN IN VENEZUELAN EMBASSY

PY112303Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2231 GMT 11 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 11 Jan--It was reported here that the Chilean Government has granted safe-conducts to the seven leftists who asked for asylum in the Venezuelan Embassy in Chile last December. According to Chilean Foreign Minister Patricio Carvajal, the decision was made in accordance with international agreements and in consideration of the fact that the Venezuelan Government has granted them asylum.

The leftists granted asylum are Alberto Herrera, Luis Perez, Luis Cornejo, Graciela Gallardo, Maria Cristina Herrera, Hernan Rojas and Alejandra Covarrubia.

Five of the asylees entered the Venezuelan Embassy on 8 December 1977 by pretending to be guests at a reception being given there.

MOLINA PALOCHIA TO BECOME PRIME MINISTER

PY120243Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 12 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Gen Guillermo Arbulu Galliani said today that he will leave the positions of prime minister, war minister and army commander on 31 January, 1978. He said he was very pleased with the results of his duties.

General Arbulu will leave those positions when he retires in accordance with the law and will be replaced by Gen Oscar Molina Palochia.

General Arbulu Galliani today visited army garrisons in the 5th military region with headquarters in Iquitos.

PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY FOR ARGENTINE REACTOR

PY101209Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish GMT 10 Jan 78 PY

[Text] An Argentine official has arrived in this capital to discuss the transfer of the zero-power reactor from Argentina to Peru. He is the director for legal affairs of the National Atomic Energy Commission of Argentina, (Jorge Martinez).

The Argentine official said that the equipment would be installed at the headquarters of the Peruvian Nuclear Institue starting 15 February. The first controlled chain atomic reaction in the zero-power reactor is to take place in April. That moment will mark the beginning of Peru's nuclear era.

(Martinez) said this would have a considerable strengthening effect on the light metal industry [metal-mecanica] on medicine and on agriculture.

BRIEFS

REPUBLICAN GUARD DIRECTOR INSTALLED--The interior minister yesterday installed Col (Leopoldo Vargas Dango) as the new general director of the Republican Guard. (Vargas) replaces Col Ernesto Brouset Alvarez, who is retiring. [Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Jan 78 PY]

NORTHERN OIL PIPELINE--The northern branch of the Peruvian oil pipeline has crossed the Maranon River. This was the most critical and difficult stage of construction. The pipe was laid on the river's bed in a 20-meter wide trench at depths ranging from 2 to 7 meters. The width of the river at this point is 1,100 meters. [Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Jan 78 PY]

COSTA RICA'S ODUBER, FACIO DISCUSS INTEGRATION

FL1111134Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish 0115 GMT 11 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Jan (INFORMEX)--Costa Rican President Daniel Oduber today revealed that a binational oil policy was agreed upon during his meeting with President Jose Lopez-Portillo. He announced that Mexcio has decided to sell to Costa Rica the enterprise Fertilizantes De Costa Rica (FERTICA) so that it can be completely in Costa Rican hands.

Oduber asserted that Latin American integration is feasible even when military dictatorships and different ideologies exist in many of the countries.

[words indistrinct] press conference at the hotel where he is staying, believing that if the new Panama Canal treaty is ratified, trust in the United States from many of the Latin American countries will be renewed. He therefore considered this step a momentous one.

Oduber said he is against the protectionism which the powerful countries are trying to exercise against the unprotected countries because this policy affects the latter. He said it was necessary to liberalize markets and pay fair prices for the goods of the underdeveloped countries.

President Oduber also discussed matters related to the political reform undertaken by the Mexican Government. He said that he was taking the text with him to Costa Rica to study it in depth and consider certain concepts from the Mexican president's document.

He announced that Mexican oil exploitation technicians will very soon go to Costa Rica to study the possibility of locating oil there. He said that much Mexican technology is being used for Costa Rican development.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Gonzalo Facio, who was interviewed at the end of a dinner which President Jose Lopez-Portillo gave this afternoon in honor of his Costa Rican counterpart, said that Costa Rica has proposed to Mexico the construction of a gas pipeline along the Central American territory. He revealed that although no specific plans were made in this regard, the project was destine for future negotiations.

He asserted that similar plans for Latin American integration; such as the Caribbean multinational shipping line, will succeed in the future.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE RELEASED ON AID TO COSTA RICA

FL1111642Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish 1620 GMT 11 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Jan (INFORMEX)--Mexico today raised the possibility that, through appropriate negotiations, the installations designed to exploit natural gas in the southeast of Mexico might be used to provide this energy source to Central American countries through the installation of a gas pipeline to that area.

The aforementioned is contained in a joint communique released this morning by the Mexican and Costa Rican presidents, Jose Lopez-Portillo and Daniel Oduber Quiroz, respectively, at the conclusion of the Costa Rican president's official visit.

Based on the oil findings in Costa Rican territory, it was also agreed to establish a broad plan of Mexican assistance to Costa Rica in oil and petrochemical matters in order to accelerate the search for oil and its proper industrialization.

Coffee is also discussed, about which the two chiefs of state [words indistinct] promote development of the enterprise "Cafes Suaves Centrales" so as to take advantage of prospects in the international market and create the bases for a stabilization fund for the defense of coffee prices.

The communique, read by Foreign Secretary Santiago Roel in the presence of the two presidents at Los Pinos residence, discusses the negotiations concerning the multinational integration enterprise "FERTICA." The two presidents agreed that Costa Rica, which is a partner in FERTICA (Fertilizantes de Centroamerica), an enterprise that operates throughout Central America and Panama, will acquire 50 percent of the enterprise's stock beginning 31 January 1978.

The two presidents agreed, with prior international bids, on the construction of the sugar mill in Boruca on the Costa Rican Pacific coast with an industrial plant investment of $36 million, of which Mexico will provide $21 million from resources of the exports support fund managed by the Bank of Mexico. The communique also calls for broad cooperation in tourism and multilateral relations, and establishment of a new regime for tuna fishing.

The Mexican president was invited to visit Costa Rica. April was set as a tentative date for the visit.

Further Report

FL111745Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish 1725 GMT 11 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Jan (INFORMEX)--In the communique released by Presidents Lopez-Portillo and Oduber, it was agreed to make an exhaustive review of matters concerned with improved and broader communication on land, sea and air between Mexico and Costa Rica.

The two presidents were pleased with the existing excellent relations between Casa Costarricense and Mexican Social Security Institute.

It was also agreed that scientific and technological cooperation is a factor of unity and an integration vehicle. Therefore, it should be strengthened and expanded. Regarding multilateral relations, it was found with gratification that the two countries maintain similar positions in the various international forums. This is reflected in their mutual interest in attaining a new international economic [order] as well as in their common position of demanding respect for sovereignty, nonintervention, peaceful solution of controversies and people's free-determination and the struggle for disarmament.

In the multilateral field, it also was agreed (?to) promote a [words indistinct] Caribbean Basin countries for the purpose of studying the common [words indistinct] and broad prospects offered by this integrated area of nations with common background and interests.

In this regard, Mexico offered to be host country, offering the installations of the (?city of) Cancun in Quintana Roo, for the planned meeting. It was agreed to take the appropriate initiatives.

ROEL: MEXICO WILL NOT ACCEPT U.S. PRESSURE IN GAS TALKS

FL112230Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2120 GMT 11 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Jan (ANSA-INFORMEX)--Foreign Secretary Santiago Roel has stated that "Mexico will neither accept pressures or blackmail" in the negotiations to sell gas to the United States nor permit the White House to use the problem of laborers as a pretext to obtain eventual advantages in transactions dealing with that raw material.

In an interview granted to a delegation of the Mexican Communist Party [PCM], Roel asserted that Mexico is not pressed to sell gas to the United States and stressed that the government of President Jose Lopez Portillo will not accept a reduction of the price of 2.60 dollars that has been set for a thousand cubic feet.

In addition, he insisted that national sovereignty will not be diminished in the least in those negotiations. Likewise, he pointed out that Mexico will propose to the United Nations and other international organizations the preparation of a code of rights of migrant workers which will be observed worldwide.

For their part, the PCM leaders reminded the foreign secretary of the urgency to demand from the United States an unconditional and complete amnesty for all persons and their relatives who have emigrated to the country to the north without legal documents.

POPULAR SOCIALIST DEPUTY BLAMES CIA FOR BOMBINGS

FL101605Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish 1450 GMT 10 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 10 January (INFORMEX)--"Every time the United States wants to take advantage of our country," Popular Socialist party deputy Francisco Ortiz Mendoza said, "one feels the hand of the CIA and, on this occasion, the bombings in Guadalajara cannot mean anything else."

To say that those responsible for the bombings are Marxist-Leninists is a lie, because communists do not act that way. These deeds only help Mexico's enemies and the most reactionary Mexican forces.

The Popular Socialist Party rejects with all its energy these types of terrorist acts, which are only acts of pressure. As the deeds demonstrate, they want to pressure our country to sell its petroleum and gas at a lower price to the Yankees.

The only solution I see, in order to face these coercive measures by the United States, is to unite around our president and reject in this way any provocation to destabilize our domestic policy or pressure our government to accede to the whims of imperialists.

COSTA RICA

ODUBER COMMENTS ON SANDINIST FRONT BASES IN COSTA RICA

PA1200437Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0005 GMT 12 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Jan (LATIN)--Costa Rican President Daniel Oduber has admitted here that the so-called Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), which is defying the Nicaraguan Government, has bases in Costa Rica. "I have been informed that they have them," Oduber said during a news conference shortly before ending his brief visit to Mexico.

Oduber noted that "the problem of not having an army in Costa Rica is reflected not only in our inability to protect our borders but also in the fact that it is very difficult for us to watch over the national territory."

Oduber stated: "Even for the president of the Costa Rican Government, it is difficult to keep a close grasp on security." He noted that there are now 50,000 Nicaraguans in Costa Rica and pointed out: "Costa Rica will grant asylum to any refugee. It has been granting asylum for 150 years."

ODUBER RETURNS FROM VISIT TO MEXICO

FL1117502Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish 1737 GMT 11 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Jan (INFORMEX)--Costa Rican President Daniel Oduber Quiros today returned to his country following a stay of almost 24 hours in this capital. The Costa Rican leader arrived at the presidential hangar at 0940 and 10 minutes later left for Costa Rica aboard the Mexican presidential plane "Quetzalcoatl" with all the members of his entourage.

At the presidential hangar, President Oduber only expressed his thanks for the attentions received, since the official farewell was held at the Los Pinos presidential house, where a joint communique signed by President Jose Lopez-Portillo and Daniel Oduber Quiros was read.

VISITING FRENCH PLANNING MINISTER SUFFERS HEART ATTACK

PA1119352Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1923 GMT 11 Jan 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, Costa Rica, 11 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Jean Claude Bonnelles, the French minister of planning, suffered a heart attack yesterday in this capital, it was reported here today.

The high-ranking official was at the Cariari Hotel when he suffered the attack at approximately 1530 (2130 GMT).

Mr Bonnelles was taken immediately to the San Juan de Dios Hospital by members of the Costa Rican Red Cross. He is receiving special treatment.

ARRESTS ANNOUNCED IN CHAMORRO ASSASSINATION CASE

PY120150Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0140 GMT 12 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Managua, 11 Jan--The National Guard announced tonight the arrest of four persons accused of being the murderers of Nicaraguan reporter Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, director of the opposition newspaper LA PRENSA.

A communique from the National Guard--the Nicaraguan army--identified the alleged "intellectual and material perpetrators"of Chamorro's murder as Domingo Acevedo, Silvio Pena Rivas, Harold Cedeno and Silvio Vega Zuniga.

SOMOZA DENIES PARTICIPATION IN CHAMORRO DEATH

PA121332Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1002 GMT 12 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Jan (AFP)--Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza tonight "emphatically" denied any participation of his government in the assassination of newsman Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, an opponent of his regime.

In a telephone conversation with Jacobo Zabludovsky, director of the Mexican television program "24 Horas," Somoza said that "assassination is not the means used to solve political problems" in Nicaragua.

The Nicaraguan president said that calm reigns in Nicaragua and that he hopes that Chamorro's funeral will occur tomorrow without any incident.

CHAMORRO'S ASSASSINATION SPARKS VIOLENT PROTESTS

PY121200Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0415 GMT 12 Jan 78 PY

[Excerpts] Managua, 11 Jan--Thousands of angered demonstrators tonight set fire to several buildings and cars, stoned police forces and jeopardized the actions of firemen as a protest against the murder of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, director of the newspaper LA PRENSA.

"Who killed Chamorro?...Somoza" the demonstrators shouted. It has been unofficially estimated that 30,000 demonstrators were escorting the body of the murdered journalist through the streets of Managua to the building of the newspaper LE PRENSA, where his body will lie in state tonight.

Maj Rene Salva, deputy head of the firemen's corps, told LATIN that at least three buildings and one official car were set afire and that firemen were stoned.

Spokesmen for security forces charged that the fires were set by terrorists who infiltrated among the demonstrators.

Among the buildings set afire were the customs building, the Centro Americano Bank, and two enterprises which are reportedly owned by the family of President Anastasio Somoza Debayle.

Fires, Looting Reported

PA121304Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1216 GMT 12 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 11 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Factories, banks, automobiles and offices were destroyed as a result of several fires that broke out tonight in this capital. The losses are estimated at several million cordobas.

Managua firemen were unable to cope with the situation as several fires destroyed offices, factories, banks and vehicles. The fires were reported along the Kennedy Highway in the northern part of the city near the offices of the daily LA PRENSA where the body of Dr Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal, murdered yesterday, lies in wake.

So far, despite the large number of people concentrated in the area, there have been no reports of casualties.

The National Guard has remained in its barracks and the police has not intervened to maintain order.

[passage indistinct] huge columns of smoke and flames can be seen along the road. Undentified persons have set fire to the building located near the place where Dr Chamorro's body lies in state. The buildings set on fire include the Portezuelo branch of the Bank of America, offices of the powerful construction firm SOVIPE and Engineers, Banco de Centro America, the El Porvenir yarn and fabric factory, the Centro de Hemoterapia (PLASMAFERESIS) and a part of the installations of the Managua customs house.

Completely burned-out vehicles can also be seen along the road.

The Managua firemen have withdrawn from the area of the fire and the buildings have been left to the mercy of the flames. Most the burned buildings are owned by the Somoza family.

A wave of looting has also broken out. The first business establishment to be looted was the Llanes Hardware Store. Hundreds of persons are coming out of the store with various articles.

Reports at the site of the fires indicate that most of the buildings destroyed by the fire have been insured for large amounts of money.

The disorders occurred while the funeral procession carrying the body of assassinated newsman Pedro Joaquin Chamorro advanced toward the offices of LA PRENSA. One of the buildings set on fire is that of the PLASMAFERESIS firm run by citizens of Cuban descent which is involved in the marketing of human blood. The industrial firm was harshly attacked by Dr Chamorro. At the end of last year, he waged an intense campaign against the company. As a result of the campaign, the government opened an investigation of the operations of the company but the results of the investigation have yet to be released.

Shortly before midnight, the crowd that had gathered in front of the burning buildings had withdrawn from the area and automobile traffic has resumed, although with difficulty.

However, barricades preventing the movement of vehicles near the LA PRENSA building have been erected. Only persons going to file by Dr Chamorro's coffin are permitted to pass. Dr Chamorro's funeral is scheduled to be held tomorrow afternoon.

NICARAGUANS IN MEXICO CONDEMN CHAMORRO DEATH

PA102126Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2042 GMT 10 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Jan (AFP(--The Nicaraguan fraternity in Mexico today condemned the murder in Managua of journalist Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, labeling it a tremendous loss for Nicaragua.

"He struggled like a true idealist against the Somoza family dictatorship," the fraternity said in a statement issued to AFP signed by Dr Florencio Fernandez and the writers Ernesto Mejia and Julio Valle. They added that "all the world's men of good will must unite their opinions and raise their voices to condemn once and for all the incredible aberration of a system of government which not only steals from the people but attacks and murders them as well."

"His blood has not been shed in vain. It is the seed for Nicaraguans to produce hundreds of more fighters to put an end to this law of the jungle worthy of cave-dwellers."

UDEL WITHDRAWS FROM NATIONAL DIALOG

PA112109Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2104 GMT 11 Jan 78 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 11 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The withdrawal of the Democratic National Liberation Union (UDEL) from any attempt to achieve a national dialog has been viewed here as the most serious immediate effect of yesterdays attack on LA PRENSA director Dr Pedro Joaquin Chamorro.

The UDEL's withdrawal practically forecloses any possibility of talks between the opposition and the administration on the curbing of violence and efforts toward national democratization.

According to the UDEL leaders--an opposition coalition made up of six political parties and two labor central organizations--the crime against Chamorro proves that conditions for talks do not exist now.

Chamorro, who was 53 years old, had served as president of the opposition organization until last month. However, he continued working within the coalition with the same zeal. He was a firm and incorruptible opponent of the Somoza administrations throughout his life.

ROMANIAN DEFENSE MINISTER DEPARTS SANTIAGO DE CUBA

FL111139Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 11 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Col Gen Ion Coman, national defense minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania, has toured the halls of the museum in Mayari Arriba which recount the struggle and the developments on the guerrilla front led by Army Gen Raul Castro in the last campaign for the national liberation of our country. The Romanian defense minister was received by a pioneer contingent which welcomed him, explained the museum displays and sent greetings to the Romanian youth in name of all Cuban pioneers.

Departure Reported

FL111206Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 11 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Col Gen Ion Coman, national defense minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee and deputy to the Romanian Grand National Assembly, yesterday concluded his visit to historic places in Santiago de Cuba Province.

The Romanian minister and his delegation were accompanied by Div Gen Senen Casas Regueiro, member of the PCC Central Committee and of the Council of State and first vice minister-chief of the [Revolutionary Armed Forces--FAR] General Staff; and Col Demetrio Montseny Villa, chief of the FAR Ministry Foreign Relations Directorate.

The visitors were seen off at Antonio Maceo International Airport by Jose Ramon Balaguer, member of the PCC Central Committee and party first secretary in Santiago de Cuba; Brig Gen Juan A. Mendez Sierra, commander of the Eastern Army; and other FAR commanders and officers.

CHILEAN RADICAL PARTY DELEGATION VISITING HAVANA

FL111720Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 11 Jan 78 FL

[Text] A Chilean Radical Party [PR] delegation consisting of Anselmo Sule and Carlos Morales, party chairman and national committee member, respectively, has been in this capital since yesterday. They were received upon arrival at Jose Marti International Airport by Manuel Pineiro, member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of its America Department; PR representative in Cuba (Camino Saldo), and Francisco Fernandez, president of the Chilean Committee of Solidarity With the Antifascist Resistance, among others.

GDR AMBASSADOR HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

FL120159Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 12 Jan 78 FL

[Text] On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between the GDR and Cuba tomorrow, 12 January, GDR Ambassador to Cuba Heinz Langer held a press conference at his country's embassy in Havana. A review of these 15 years shows a universally positive result and of great benefit for the two sides, Langer stated. The GDR ambassador added that since 12 January 1963, relations with Cuba have expanded to all spheres of social life.

CUBAN MINISTERS ARRIVE IN JAMAICA FOR VISIT

FL111152Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 11 Jan 78 FL

[Text] The Cuban ministers of public health and construction, Jose Gutierrez and Jose Lopez Moreno, have arrived in Kingston for a 4-day official visit. Both ministers will hold talks with Jamaican authorities on bilateral cooperation in their respective fields.

MALMIERCA RECEIVES NEW VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR

FL111247Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Foreign Relations Minister Isidoro Malmierca has received Dr Ramon Delgado, who presented his credentials accrediting him as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Venezuela in Cuba. After presenting his credentials, Dr Ramon Delgado was received in solemn audience by People's Government National Assembly President Blas Roca Calderio.

MARTINEZ NAMED FIRST AMBASSADOR TO BARBADOS

PY120245Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0148 GMT 12 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Georgetown, 11 Jan--Cuban Ambassador to Guyana Cesar Martinez will also act as Cuban ambassador to Barbados, it was reported in Georgetown today. Martinez, who came back from Havana last night, will be the first Cuban ambassador to Barbados. In three weeks he will go to Barbados to present his credentials. Guyana and Barbados established diplomatic relations with Cuba in December 1972.

EXCERPT FROM RODRIGUEZ HAVANA UNIVERSITY SPEECH

FL112125Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0138 GMT 11 Jan 78 FL

[Speech by PCC Politburo member Carlos Rafael Rodriguez at ceremony marking conclusion of commemorative activities for the 250th anniversary of the University of Havana--live]

[Excerpt] There are other aspects associated with the struggle of the last century in which the Cuban revolution demands from you and will continue to demand sacrifices and contributions implying the highest revolutionary awareness and a generous readiness which are not inferior to those of the Cuban heroes of all times. They are our internationalist tasks. Here, too, the revolution's positions are also rooted in Jose Marti and Karl Marx. Marti said that fatherland is humanity, and Marx and Engels affirmed--and Lenin demonstrated--that our era's revolution was necessarily international because of the international nature of the system which we would have to overthrow.

Internationalism began among us when all our aspirations could not be resolved and all the needs of our people could not be covered in order to help other peoples who were much more backward than ours. Frequently, the visitors--who have learned about the candid and precise pronouncements of Comrade Fidel explaining to our people the need in which we find ourselves, due to the contingency of the international economy and the situation concerning the price of sugar, of postponing some of the consumer products which our citizens would like to have and which they will have--ask us if Cuba's efforts to help other peoples do not create in the Cuban youth and workers certain disagreement [inconformidad]. Our response has always been clear. We have recommended that they ask our secondary school students, who have been forced to seek provisional lodging in frame schools in some places in the countryside at the same time that Cuba was building in Africa and the Caribbean complete basic secondary schools, such as the ones that have been erected throughout the entire country, that they ask them if they were displeased with the temporary sacrifice they have to make so that the youngsters from Africa may have what hundreds of thousands of our youths already have. There they will get the best response. [applause]

But internationalism is much more than those small pronouncements, of which our people are proud. Internationalism may lead our working or university youth to do the supreme duty of sacrificing their lives fighting far away from the fatherland upon request from our brothers, as has happened in Africa. Fidel defined once and for all what internationalist duty means to us at the time when an attempt was made to crush Vietnam by proclaiming from this very podium that, for Vietnam, we were willing to give even our own blood.

It is not in that way that we would like to see our youth demonstrate its internationalism. We are not warmongers. For us communists, who build socialism, peace is a permanent objective of our international policy. When our troops have fought outside this land, they have done so in defense of a threatened people who requested our solidarity and, as Fidel has stated, no one will succeed, either with flattery or threats, in making Cuba renounce the principles which were the reasons for the Cuban presence in Angola. [applause]

We prefer--and this has also been stated by Fidel--that the Cuban solidarity with the brothers from other lands be translated, above all, into civilian assistance of our physicians, of construction workers of roads, bridges and dwellings, agricultural and soil [sopennistas] engineers, teachers and specialists in construction work and fishing specialists. Enemy propaganda has said that there are thousands of Cubans in Africa and Caribbean countries. Yes, it is true that there are several thousand Cubans, but they are fewer than we would like to send and fewer than are needed by those whom colonialism left without hospitals, without schools, without roads, without agriculture. It is in that undertaking, comrade students of the University of Havana and the entire nation, that the scientific and technical preparation you are receiving merges with the demands of the internationalist revolutionary duty that waits for us and for you.

When Fidel is concerned with stepping up the study of medicine among us, he is also thinking about the hospitals in cities in the interior of the country and in rural zones where the services are not yet complete, and in those remote countries in which he has seen with compassionate heart what it represents in waste of lives, to the extent that life expectancy among them is less than 40 years--the unsanitary conditions, the epidemics, the defenselessness in which colonial exploitation has left them because they lack physicians and medical aid.

We have also demonstrated internationalism by bringing here, to the modest degree of our possibilities, hundreds of students from Asia, Africa and Latin America to share with us the higher education that now we are restructuring. But that is not enough, and in that exercise of internationalism to care for the sick, to build a bridge, to help organize the cattle industry is as important as fighting in the trenches. I am sure that Pablo de la Torriente Brau, whom we always remember walking around the university grounds with his broad smile and polemic wit, would have gone to work in Tanzania, in Mozambique or in Guinea with the same joy with which he went to give his life to the people's and democratic Spain [as heard] when the consciousness and heart of our time were there. [applause]

That internationalist feeling of our youth will be further strengthened next July at the conclusion of the commemorative activities for the 25th anniversary of the assault of the Moncada, during which the final phase of the revolution had its origin, when thousands of youths from all parts of the world, Asians, Europeans, Arabs, Africans, members of the socialist community, Americans from the north, Latin America and the Caribbean meet to hold the 11th World Youth and Students Festival in Cuba in recognition of the efforts and positions of the Cuban youth. The Union of Young Communists has just issued an appeal in which it outlines to youths the program of activities for the final phase of this undertaking to which the honor and enthusiasm of all our people are committed. The university students will undoubtedly not fail in that commitment.

Comrades, in officially closing today the commemorative activities for the 250th anniversary of the University of Havana, which found its origin in royalty and the church, which was royal and literary later on and revolutionary and socialist in our time, a lesson of optimism and firmness emerges from its history. In every culture, Lenin said, in reality two contradictory cultures are implied: the one of the ruling classes which refuses to succumb and which uses arts, education and science as tools of survival and another new culture which advances inexorably. When we talk about the Cuban cultural inheritance and the need to take advantage of the best of all eras, it is that culture, progressive culture, that we claim as ours. The history of Havana University's 250 years, the cultural fiber of those who worked for man's freedom, for the nation's integrity, for independence and for democracy has been the legacy left to future generations. What was barely a group of demanding voices and without echo has become, slowly but surely, a powerful combat force which, together with the rest of the people, has finally gained the victory all wanted.

There were weaknesses and desertions. We have buried our dead with dry eyes and tight lips, but they now emerge like those who feel in 1868 and 1893, in 1930, before the Moncada assault, like the heroes of Moncada, like the combatants of the Sierra and Giron. Student Julio Antonio Mella, who was expelled from the university, forced to leave his fatherland and murdered in Mexico for being a communist, presides over our commemoration as a living hero. The history of the university, which is an inseparable part of that of our nation, in this manner confirms that the peoples, if they are willing, cannot be defeated.

That is the experience which the Cuban people, who achieved victory after a century of continuous fighting, give to the fraternal peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America on this 250th anniversary of the university, which was the propelling force and scenario of that struggle. Fatherland or dealth.

ARMED FORCES VANGUARDS WELCOMED TO HAVANA

FL111226Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 11 Jan 78 FL

[Text] The official welcoming ceremony for the sergeants, soldiers, sailors and civilian workers who are 1977 Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR) vanguards and the student vanguards from the Camilo Cienfuegos military schools was held last night at the FAR main club.

Div Gen Julio Casas Requeiro, vice minister of the FAR and alternate member of the PCC Central Committee, made the welcoming speech. He stressed the hard work done by the vanguards and the role played by socialist emulation in the fulfillment of the various missions last year.

Maj Gen (Vitaliy Legchilin) also spoke. On behalf of the Soviet specialists, he conveyed warm congratulations to the large group of vanguards and wished them new and greater successes in emulation and in raising combat and political training.

The ceremony also was presided over by Brig Gen Calixto Garcia, member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of its Military Department; Col Manuel Penado Casanova; Julio Machado Tamayo, secretary general of the National Trade Union of FAR Civilian Workers; and other FAR commanders and officers.

In the afternoon, the 1977 FAR vanguards laid a floral wreath at the Jose Marti monument in Revolution Plaza. They then went to the Museum of the Revolution and Granma memorial where they were received by museum director Maj Nelson Martinez Amador who made a brief welcoming speech and invited them to tour the various halls that show the history of our people's struggle. The activity ended with a tour of the Granma memorial.

Week of Tribute Begins

FL111229Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 11 Jan 78 FL

[Excerpt] The week of tribute to sergeants, soldiers, sailors and civilian workers who are 1977 FAR vanguards and the student vanguards from the Camilo Cienfuegos military school has opened with the laying of a wreath at the mausoleum which holds the remains of Lt Gen Antonio Maceo in El Cacahual.

BRIEFS

AEROFLOT SERVICES--The Soviet Airline Aeroflot tomorrow will commemorate the 15th anniversary of its Moscow-Havana route, one of the world's longest. The route, which at first was covered with TU-114 turboprop planes, is now covered with the modern IL-62 jets. In the past 5 years, Aeroflot has transported more than 250,000 and has surpassed 3,000 tons of cargo. Relations between the two countries in the aeronautics field include the training of Cubana de Aviacion pilots and technicians in the USSR. Cuba has acquired TAK-40 planes in the Soviet Union for its domestic routes and IL-62 jets for its international routes. Moreover, the Jose Marti Airport is being expanded with Soviet assistance. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1938 GMT 6 Jan 78 FL]

ANTIGUA

REPORTS ON PASSAGE OF ARMS FOR S. AFRICA EXAMINED

FL090105Y Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 5 Jan 78 p 3 FL

[Text] St John's Antigua, Wednesday, (CANA)--There is still some uncertainty over whether arms bound for South Africa actually passed through here.

A statement two months ago by African nationalist leader Joshua Nkomo that 900 tons of arms had reached Rhodesia via South Africa, Antigua, New York and Canada caused controversy in Antigua and prompted a meeting here last Friday involving government, the opposition, the port authority, and the Canadian firm--Space Research Corporation.

The Space Research Corporation has been accused on more than one occasion of being directly involved in the transshipment of arms to South Africa.

After the meeting, the opposition Antigua Caribbean Liberation Movement (ACLM) issued a statement saying that in August goods destined for South Africa had definitely passed through Antigua, but it was uncertain whether arms were included.

The statement said that the cargo was labelled "For South Africa" and some of the containers were identified as vehicles and tyres, but others were not examined and none were checked by customs officials.

But, it also conceded that it was not clear whether intransit cargo could be regarded as being imported and so place on the government or its agents the responsibility for examining it.

For its part, the government issued a statement saying that what the ACLM believed could have been arms transhipped earlier, in March, were, in fact, un-armed shells for testing by the Space Research Corporation.

Part of the ACLM's statement had devoted itself to this earlier incident, when it said that the cargo that came to Antigua in March and later shipped away aboard the South African cargo ship, the SA Tugelaland, could have been the arms that Mr Nkomo had mentioned.

The government statement also said that when the Tugelaland sailed from Antigua, it left behind two containers with jeeps, lumber and empty crates.

The statement continued: "In the process of discharging its cargo, it was observed that there were goods in the hold of the ship identified as tractor parts and tyres marked 'Durban, South Africa'. These goods were not unloaded in Antigua and no guns or ammunitions of any kind were identified."

The statement added that at the time the cargo was put on board, Space Research Corporation was not aware of the ownership of the Tugelaland, and on its arrival and departure from Antigua the port authority and the agent for the vessel did not know about the ownership, but only that it was registered in Germany.

It said that defence force personnel seen on the docks were not guarding cargo belonging to Space Research, but the government's tugs following threats to blow them up.

BARBADOS

BARBADOS REFUSES TO RELEASE GUATEMALAN ARMS

FL071950Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1911 GMT 7 Jan 78 FL

[Text] The magistrate of Barbados (Frank King) has refused a Guatemalan regime petition to release the shipment of weapons being held by Barbadian authorities since 26 June 1977. The contraband value at $2.5 million and weighing 26 tons was acquired by Guatemala in Portugal and other NATO member countries.

Barbadian custom officials discovered the shipment when the Rio Platense Air Transportation Company plane, of Argentine registry, made a technical stop in Bridgetown while on route from Lisbon, Portugal. Upon searching the plane in Barbados, it was discovered that the plane carried some 22,000 kilos [as heard] of ammunition and light arms destined for Guatemala City.

A $6,000 fine was imposed on the four Argentine citizens who were flying the plane which stopped over in Barbados for their part in illegally transporting a contraband of arms from Portugal destined for the Guatemalan Armed Forces.

Guatemalan Foreign Minister Adolfo Molina Orantes at first denied his country's responsibility for the deed, but soon afterward Defense Vice Minister Federico Fuentes admitted tha that the materiel held in Barbados was made up of ammunition. Guatemalan President Eugenio Kjell Laugerud was more explicit and said that the arms were destined for the army in face of the sharpening conflict with Great Britain over the case of Belize.

JAMAICA

MANLEY URGES RENEWED FIGHT FOR SELF-RELIANCE

FL051715Y Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English 1 Jan 78 pp 1, 2 FL

[Text] Prime Minister Michael Manley in his new year's message to the nation has urged Jamaicans to regard 1978 as the time for a renewal of the commitment to struggle and disciplined endeavour in the fight to make the nation self-reliant and independent.

It was not a year for the nation to sit back on its laurels and relax in the belief that the worst was past. On the contrary, there was no easy path ahead and great sacrifices would still have to be made, he said.

Following is the text of the prime minister's message:

The approach of a new year always brings with it the opportunity for us as a nation to analyse and reflect as well as to heope and to plan. A new year provides the opportunity to strengthen weaknesses, correct the errors of the past even as one faces the challenge of the next step forward on the road to national improvement and self-reliance.

The year that is just passing was a turbulent one. Crime again emerged as a serious problem, sapping the confidence of a people already battered by a barrage of criticism and complaint from those who projected minority interests while pretending to speak for the nation as a whole. At the same time, unemployment or the fear of unemployment, caused uncertainty and suffering, particulary among our young people.

Year to consolidate

Despite this 1977 was also a year of considerable achievement for the Jamaican people. For the first time we were able to introduce a truly people's plan for national development; and as I pointed out in my report on the state of the economy, we have made significant strides over the last twelve months. The trade gap was reduced in the first nine months from minus $201 million to minus $16 million. Our rate of consumption is down and exports of non-traditional items for the first time in years showed a real increase in some areas.

There was improvement in domestic food production, in many areas far surpassing the targets set under the emergency production plan, while targets for the placing farmers under project land lease were attained. There was also a dramatic increase in the number of Jamaicans who spent their holidays at home, boosting expenditure in hotels by some $1.4 million. All this despite the Jeremiahs who would have us believe that no progress was possible in the country and that disaster and damnation faces us at every turn.

I tell you all this not for us to sit back on our laurels and relax in the belief that the worst is past. On the contrary, no easy path lies ahead of us and great sacrifices will still have to be made.

More than ever, 1978 will have to be the year to consolidate the gains we have made even as we continue the struggle to improve conditions in the country.

This administration has stated time and time again that we are committed to the creation of a society based on the principle of equal justice and equal rights for all people, and to the ideology of democratic socialism as the means of achieving this objective.

This new year is the time for a renewal of that commitment to struggle and disciplined endeavour, in the fight to make our nation truly self-reliant and independent.

But there are certain areas in which the struggle will have to be intensified.

1978 has to be the year for unqualified co-operation between the police and citizens so as to control and minimise crime in our society. Important new measures to combat crime have already been announced, but I appeal to every citizen to consider it his or her duty to become actively involved in the fight against the gunmen and other criminals in the society, whether it be through the Home Guard, or by providing vital information on criminal activity to the police. Above all, I call for support for, and solidarity with, our security forces.

1978 will also have to be a year of increased production. More than any other, this administration has sought to improve conditions for the workers of this country. Labour legislation enacted over the past year has brought serious advances in the status and rights of the Jamaican worker. But concommitant with those rights is the responsibility each worker has for the future growth and development of Jamaica.

All of us, managements and workers alike, have to realise that every man-day of production lost retards Jamaica's development immeasurably. This country can no longer afford the luxury of wild cat strikes, of provocative management behaviour or below standard production at the workplace.

All of us must realise that what we are talking about is not just whether one man will get an increase in his pay packet or not. That is important. But even more important is our ensuring that the nation itself survives.

"Must Wait..."

In 1978, those of us who have, will have to recognise that we cannot seek to grasp more for ourselves, but must be prepared to wait, so that the less privileged in our society may be provided for. If we want to continue to enjoy those privileges which we have, then it is imperative that we remember and make provision for those who do not have.

This will require a united effort on the part of all committed and patriotic Jamaicans. Those who would seek to divide by stirring up hate and strife in our society are irrelevant to the search by the majority of our people for improvements in their social and economic condition.

Jamaica today stands poised on the threshold of a new beginning. The progress over the past year gives the lie to the dire forcasts of the pessimists and proves them to have been the murmuring of false prophets.

1978 is a year of great opportunity for all Jamaicans. The people have shown that they can meet the challenges which face us and that they will not be deterred from the path they have selected for their development. Let us, therefore, seize the time and move even more confidently forward on the path to democratic socialist development.

Let us each set ourselves a personal target of self-discipline, a personal goal of courtesy and a personal objective of promoting unity. Each of us must resolve to struggle against anti-social behaviour.

Let us determine to behave as one people, disciplined in effort and as one nation; united in a common purpose under God, to achieve peace and prosperity in this our country, this Jamiaca, land we love.

CUBAN DOCTORS PRAISED BY MANLEY

FL311635Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 24 Dec 77 pp 1, 23 FL

[GLEANER Western Bureau dispatch]

[Text] Cuban doctors brought a new high quality of medical service to Jamaica, said Prime Minister Michael Manley yesterday. He was speaking to a large crowd at the Savanna-la-Mar Hospital compound after installing the team of Cuban doctors who had been on orientation in Kingston.

Mr. Manley said he did not mean that Jamaica did not have a fine team of medical men. Jamaica did, he said, but "we do not as yet have enough doctors, and the work is enormous particularly in rural Jamaica" where there was a severe shortage.

The prime minister landed by helicpter at Frome and motored to Savanna-la-Mar where he held informal talks with the Cuban doctors at their residence.

A procession of placard-waving men, women and children numbering several hundreds escorted the prime minister and is party to the hospital compound. The prime minister was accompanied by his brother, Dr. Douglas Manley, minister of health, the parliamentary secretary in the Health Ministry, M.P.'s an councillors.

At the outset, the prime minister was apologetic to the Cuban doctors for any embarrassment which he said might have been caused them as a result of recent reports about the Savanna-la-Mar Hospital.

Addressing the audience, Mr. Manley said the willingness of the Government of Cuba to assist Jamaica and to co-operate by sending a medical brigade here was an act of which every well-thinking Jamaican should be proud and be happy.

He said he saw this as a sign of true internationalism and friendship to a people struggling for a better way of life. We saw the first brigade come, learn the language and go to work, a thing which moved all of us to admiration over their dedication and capacity to work hard. They brought a new high quality of medical service to Jamaica, he said.

That did not mean, he told the audience, that Jamaica did not have a fine team of medical men, Jamaica does and we owe our own medical men a great debt of gratitude, but we do not as yet have enough doctors and the work is enormous particularly in rural Jamaica where the doctor-patient problem continues to be unsolved because of severe shortage of doctors.

All of those who examined the work done by the first brigade of Cuban doctors were extremely proud that it is those who cared for the suffering conditions of the poor people. With the presence of the Cuban doctors here, the prime minister said, he was happy to know that at least one group of our people was enjoying the benefits of good medical service provided by our good Cuban friends.

With this in mind one would have thought that this was good and there was no need for any argument since it was the poor which was benefiting and enjoying one element of civilized life, hither-to unknown to them.

Mr. Manley said that he desired to make one thing abundantly clear and that is that there will be no competition between our doctors and the Cuban doctors since the well-thinking Jamaican doctors were very proud of the Cuban doctors and the doctors from Cuba were proud of their Jamaican counterpart.

Recently when representatives of the Jamaican medical profession returned here from a fact-finding mission in Cuba, they had nothing but praise for the great achievement of the Cuban revolution in the medical profession. The Jamaican team, Mr. Manley said, declared that Cuban medicine was of the highest standard, standing on par with any other country.

Just about the end of the service here of the first Cuban medical brigade, everyone here expressed happiness and President Castro announced that he was aready and willing to send another brigade here to assist us indicating then, that the second would even be bigger than the first, and we were happy for we thought that would be a good thing particularly for the people of Westmoreland. Hanover and St. Elizabeth who have been telling us their personal experiences from the high standard of medical services they had been receiving.

Right Time

Referring to the events of recent weeks, Mr. Manley said he had not spoken on this matter before because he wanted to speak at the right time, place, and to the right people.

He said that the record of the Cuban doctors speaks for itself and the first brigade actually attended and ministered to 92,000 patients; this is performance and dedication and efficiency second to none in our experience in Jamaica.

Mr. Manley said that he was in no quarrel with our own doctors who were very patriotic but, he said, we were also proud of our Cuban brothers. But when I saw that piece of news challenging the ability and integrity of the Cuban doctors, I personally regarded it as one of the most vicious, ungrateful and shameful chapters in Jamaican history.

There are a few people, some in a newspaper, some in a political party and some in other walks of life making up a very small minority who decided to attack the Cuban doctors who had given so much of their medical skills to us.

The prime minister said that that was a cold-blooded ruthless and deliberate plot which marked before the world as being vicious those who had hoped to spread enough propaganda and lies and confusion to make you the people lose the benefits of the second brigade of Cuban doctors.

He said he had examined the situation thoroughly to see if there was a possibility of misunderstanding but all that he was able to come up with was the the whole thing was a vicious and deliberate lie.

Neither the majority of the Jamaican people, news-paper people, doctors, or hospital administration subscribed to these lies and attacks, he said.

Anguish

No one can drive a wedge between the friendship of the Cubans and Jamaica, Mr. Manley said, adding that he was in Savanna-la-Mar on behalf of the government and the people of Jamaica to say to the Cuban doctors that I am sorry that you had been put to such mental anguish and I wish to assure you that you are here in the spirit of solidarity, love, dedication and internationalism.

We know that you represent one of the finest medical traditions in the world and we are proud of you.

Mr. Manley thanked the minister of health and the junior minister for the manner in which they handled the situation. Mr. Manley and his party were taken on a tour of the hospital and he chatted with some patients.

He said a third brigade of Cuban doctors will be coming to Jamaica but he declined to say the time and number.

MCGANN SAYS CUBAN AID TO NATIONAL GUARD NOT TRAINING

FL111450Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 7 Jan 78 p 13 FL

[Text] Cuban assistance in connection with the National Home Guard is of a technical nature and had nothing to do with training, Mr. Roy McGann told the police federation earlier this week.

Mr. McGann who is parliamentary secretary in the office of the prime minister, reaffirmed that the purpose of the National Home Guard, which falls under the full control of the police force, has always been to assist the police in the fight against crime, at the district level.

Mr. McGann was speaking at a meeting with the police federation, at his office at the Ministryof National Security on Wednesday. The role and functions of the National Home Guard were discussed.

According to an API release, he emphasized that Home Guards will never be given the type or level of training offered to policemen and, therefore, could not do the work of the police.

Mr. McGann pointed out that any misapprehension regarding Cuban assistance to the Home Guard was unfounded, as the assistance was only of a technical nature and had nothing to do with training.

He explained that the assistance was requested as Cuba, more than any other country, had achieved a high level of success in bringing crime under control, with the help of people in their communities.

The federation, through its chairman, Inspector E.K. Lobban, expressed appreciation of Mr. McGann's clarification, and promised to maintain a keen interest in the functioning of the Home Guard.

CUBAN EMBASSY RECEPTION MARKS REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

FL101607Y Kingston Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Jan 78 FL

[Text] A reception to celebrate the 19th anniversary of the Cuban revolution was held last night. The function was hosted by the Cuban ambassador to Jamiaca, Senor Ramon Pez-Ferro, and Mrs Ferro at (Milford Avenue) in (Barbington), Kingston. Among those present were Governor-General and Mrs Glasspole, the new Minister of National Security Dudley Thompson, Minister of Foreign Affairs P.J. Patterson and general secretary of the Workers Liberation League [name indistinct] (Monroe). In addition, there were representatives of various cultural organizations and staffers of the Cuban Embassy. Music was provided by the Jamaica military band.

SUGAR EXPORTERS RESENT RAISED U.S. TARIFFS

FL051650Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 3 Jan 78 p 2 FL

[Text] Dec., 1977:

Sugar may bring an abrupt end to Jimmy Carter's honeymoon with Latin America. Without consulting Latin American exporters as agreed upon under inter-American trade agreements, Washington raised U.S. sugar tariffs and implemented special import fees. The economic impact is uncertain but significant exporters like the Dominican Republic, Peru, Guatemala, Brazil, Panama and Caribbean commonwealth nations are understandably concerned.

U.S. diplomats explain that congressional pressure forced the Carter administration to move hard and fast. All Latin American countries are deeply disturbed that the U.S. would take a measure of such vital interest to hemisphere countries without prior consultation as called for by the Special Committee for Consultation and Negotiation (CECON). OAS Secretary General Alejandro Orfila, a man not given to criticizing the U.S., scolded the Carter administration for by-passing CECON and added:

High Stakes

"The stakes for hemispheric harmony in this matter are high. Half of the U.S. sugar imports come from OAS nations...Interdependence is said to be the way of life in our hemisphere today. Somehow, though our actions must match our words and the development of a common OAS sugar policy would be a constructive step toward this goal."

The Carter administration argues that the tariffs and fees are only a temporary situation until the inter-national sugar agreement hopefully comes into force next year. But Uncle Sam was clearly in the wrong on the question of prior consultation. What will Latin America make of the issue? Diplomats could work quietly to make the best of the situation or politicos could raise hell in public forums. The answer will be a real test of the depth of Jimmy Carter's popularity in Latin America.

At the time of his election Jimmy Carter was widely hailed in Latin America. He was just the kind of man the region likes to see in the White House: an idealist, and a Democrat and seemingly in the grand tradition of Wilson, FDR, and John Kennedy. The new administration's emphasis on human rights pleased many, and his campaign to update the canal arrangement with Panama was universally acclaimed. Many capitals were happy that Carter seemed prepared to normalize relations with Cuba.

Grievances

But the Carter administration has been accumulating grievances. The human rights campaign kept most countries on the defensive but it is losing its force as the whole issue increasingly appears an extension of U.S. domestic politics, not a realistic approach to a profound Latin American problem. Brazilians were insulted by the U.S. attempt to prevent the acquisition of German nuclear power plants. Furthermore, Uncle Sam hasn't been forthcoming on development funds for the Inter-American Development Bank, and so it goes.

The heralded detente with Cuba simply hasn't worked out. And the Panama Canal treaties are in deep trouble. Overall, the new administration has not fashioned a coherent Latin American policy and capitals are baffled by an endless stress on Yankee visitors bent on pressing a special interest. Latin America may be prepared to act out its frustration over the sugar problem.

The use of an economic issue to dramatize a broad loss of faith was well illustrated by the complete collapse of Henry Kissinger's celebrated new dialogue, ostensibly over the issue of Ecuadorean and Venezuelan exclusion from participation in the U.S. generalized system of tariff preferences.

While at the point of his remarkable career, Super-K proposed a new dialogue with Latin America and hemisphere capitals could set the agenda, Latin Americans were ecstatic. But the 1973 initiative was amorphous and based solely on Kissinger's mystique.

At the first major meeting of the new dialogue in Mexico City in February of 1974 quiet doubts set in about exactly what could be accomplished by it all. Goodwill prevailed, however, and something called the "Spirit of Tlatelolco" was painted as a measure of success. Increasingly it became apparent that the U.S. initiative had nothing to offer.

In January of 1975, President Ford proudly signed into law the U.S. system of preference, long an objective of hemisphere leaders. But mad about the oil embargo and rising oil prices, the Congress foolishly excluded Latin America's two OPEC members, Ecuador and Venezuela. The South American nations had been faithful suppliers during the boycott and the discrimination was clearly unfair. The fact remained, however, that all other hemisphere nations stood to gain by GSP and the oil-exporters had few products which qualified under the system. Washington was stunned when Latin America cancelled another round of the new dialogue and focussed exclusively on the Ecuadoran and Venezuelan exclusion. In reality, they were using the issue as an excuse to disengage from the unproductive new dialogue.

Will Latin America similarly employ the sugar issue to end the love feast with Jimmy Carter? The answer will depend on whether Latin American leaders still have faith in the man from Georgia.

COORE TO REPORT TO HOUSE ON IMF ACCORD STATUS

FL111455Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 7 Jan 78 p 1 FL

[Text] Financial Secretary Horace Barber yesterday replied, "No comment" when asked to verify the report that the agreement made between the government and the International Monetary Fund last year, which involved financial assistance to Jamaica of $74 million, has been suspended because Jamaica has failed to meet the conditions.

Speaking for the Ministry of Finance in the absence of Finance Minister David Coore, Mr Barber told the GLEANER yesterday the comment of columnist Wilmot Perkins has been noted and the minister would reply to it at the proper time and place.

He said: "The minister will deal with the columnist's comment in the appropriate way--which is a statement in the House to the people of the country".

Asked if he would confirm or deny the statement, Mr Barber replied: "No comment".

In his column yesterday Perkins said that the government "has not told the people that the IMF is now satisfied that there is no longer any prospect of Jamaica meeting the targets specified in that agreement, with the result that the agreement has been suspended. The December tranche and subsequent tranches will therefore not be available".

In Ausust the IMF approved financial assistance to Jamaica of $74 million in support of a comprehensive programme to stabilize (Jamaica's economy.

In grating the loan the IMF noted that the country's balance of payment had been under severe pressure since late 1974 because of rapid increase in oil prices and later because of a drop in demand for bauxite and the price of sugar.

The loan was made available in three installments, the first of which became due during the latter part of last year. The other two installments of $11 million were due to become available in December 1977 and March 1978.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

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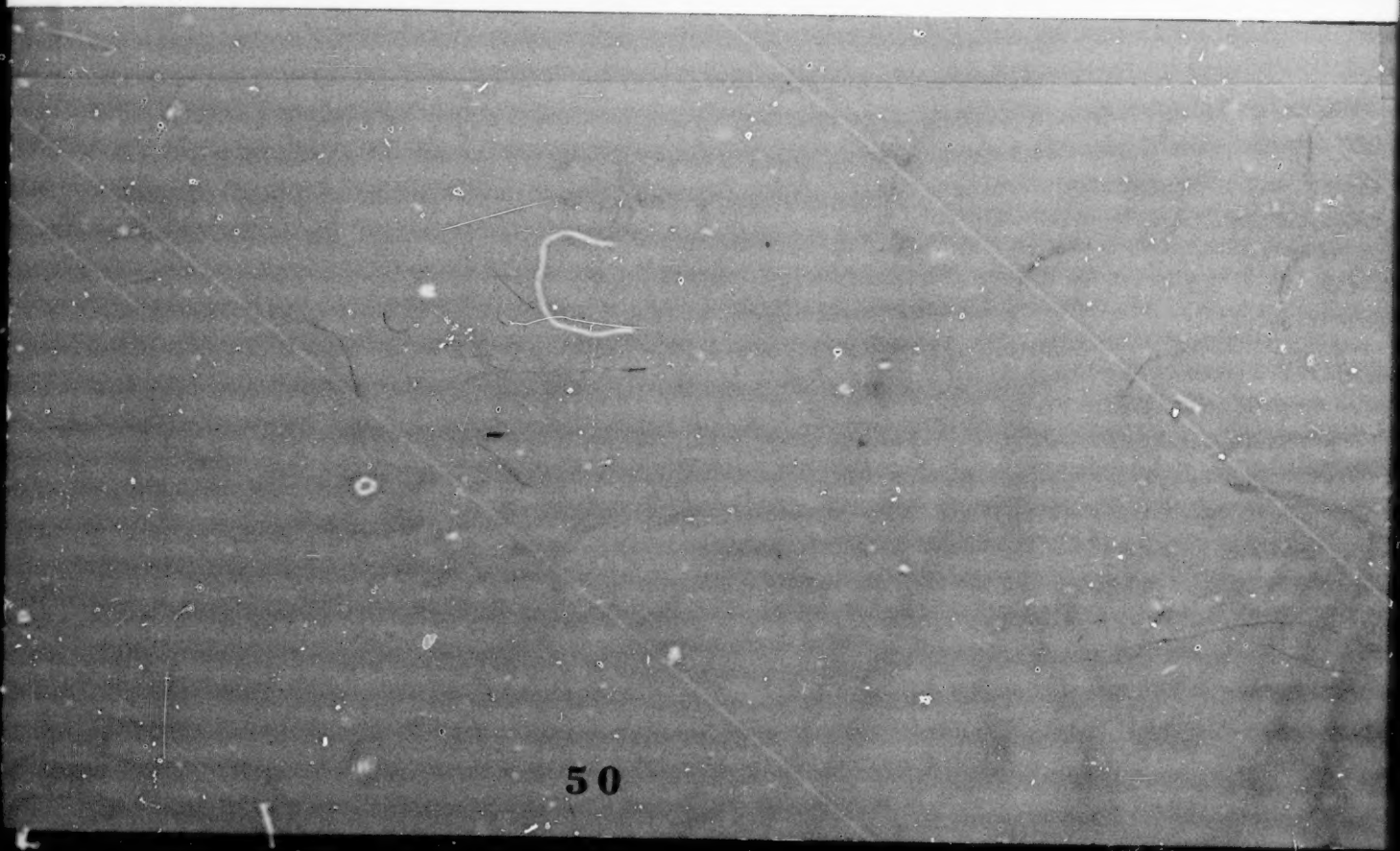
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